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## library system

### ldings in the U.S. alone

(Cont. from p. 2)

building was often bitter in larger cities where there was labor influence. When the Detroit library board approached Carnegie for a building and was offered \$750,000, the Detroit Journal came out against it and quoted the city treasurer as stating, "It doesn't seem to me as though it should be a proper thing for this town to accept a big chunk of money as a gift from a man who has made his money the way Carnegie did."

#### 35 communities

In Massachusetts, 35 communities received Carnegie grants between 1901 and 1917. These ranged from \$4,000 for Edgartown to \$260,000 for Springfield, which used the money for four branches. Although Carnegie lived in the Berkshires in his later years and enjoyed his Shadowbrook "cottage," only two towns in the county were recipients of his philanthropy. These are Lee and New Marlboro. Neither of these libraries was built in the style which became jokingly referred to as Carnegie Classic and Carnegie Renaissance. The New Marlboro building is particularly unique and has an interesting history.

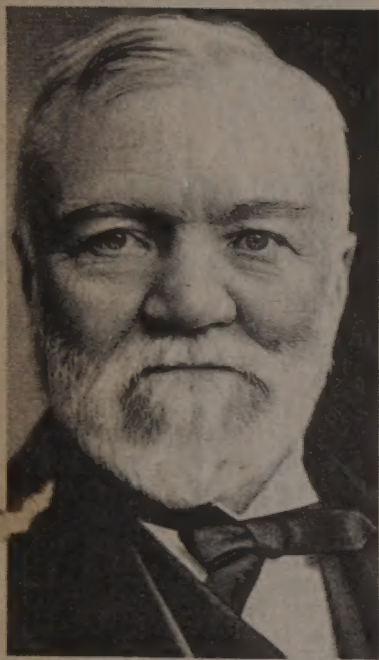
Marcus H. Rogers, a newspaperman and inventor who devised a machine for folding newspapers directly from the press, retired to his native village of Mill River. At a town meeting he suggested that New Marlboro build a public library and with the town moderator casting the deciding vote, his idea was

**"My reason for selecting libraries was my belief, as Carlyle has recorded it, that the true university of these days is a collection of books and that such libraries are entitled to a first place for the elevation of the masses of the people."**

Andrew Carnegie

adopted, 55 to 54. Rogers appealed to the Carnegie Foundation and was granted \$5,000, which he himself matched.

The building, with an impressive facade graced with four white pillars, was finished in 1920. As the New Marlboro historian tells it, Marcus Rogers, then 85 years old, himself cast 20 white concrete sections which formed the four columns and wheeled them over to the site one by one in his wheelbarrow. The New Marlboro Library, so far as I can determine, has the distinction of being the only Carnegie-funded library that lacks a water supply and toilet facilities. To its credit, it appears to function without these refinements.



Andrew Carnegie

#### Beat him to it

In comparison with other parts of the country, New England did not receive many Carnegie buildings. The reason for that is simply that earlier, if less wealthy, philanthropists beat Carnegie to it. Most communities in Massachusetts, as well as the other New England states, already had libraries by the time Carnegie came on the scene.

A rather remarkable report of the Free Public Library Commission of Massachusetts, published in 1899, gives detailed descriptions of the state's libraries and their history. Its 464 pages, illustrated with photographs, leave no doubt that library philanthropy did not originate with Carnegie.

The library buildings in existence in Massachusetts at the turn of the century were to a large extent gifts of individuals. The report contains what the commission labels "A Roll of Honor, List of Givers of Free Public Library Buildings in Massachusetts," which consists of an alphabetical listing of the communities with the names of the benefactors.

In Berkshire County, the library in Becket is listed as a gift of Blanche Perkins; that in Dalton, a gift of the Crane family; Hinsdale, gift of citizens; Lenox, gift of Adeline Schermerhorn; North Adams, gift of Albert Houghton; Pittsfield, gift of Thomas Allen; and Stockbridge, gift of John Z. Goodrich. Neighboring Cummington's library was a gift of William Cullen Bryant.

#### Only 7 without

At the end of the 19th century, only seven of the 351 cities and towns in the commonwealth were without a free public library. Three of these seven had "association" libraries which required a membership fee. The one Berkshire town without a public library was New Marlboro. About this community the report makes the interesting comment, "New Marlboro has five post offices and no public library." As I

have already indicated, that situation was remedied 20 years later, partly by a Carnegie gift.

At present there are five towns in Massachusetts without a public library, all in the western part of the state. Two of these are in Berkshire County — Washington and New Ashford. In 1899, Washington was listed as not having a library, but having "the free use of the library in Becket." New Ashford had a library opened in 1891, "kept in a private house." The annual appropriation by the town for its support was \$15 and "cost of administration" was \$5. Apparently that burden became too heavy for the small community.

Although the early 20th century spurt in library construction, because of Carnegie funding, served to stimulate interest in libraries, there were also negative results. Writing in the Library Journal of Dec. 1, 1951, Ralph Munn, former president of the American Library Association and at the time director of the Carnegie Library in Pittsburgh, questioned Carnegie's giving library buildings to communities so small that they could not afford to provide good library services.

He wrote, "I think that these small libraries have harmed the cause. Many millions of Americans know only these village and town libraries, and have formed their entire concept of the public library from them. Too small to provide even the minimum essentials of good service, these libraries are largely responsible for the attitude of benevolent apathy with which so many people regard public libraries. Every experienced librarian now knows that small cities and towns cannot operate successful public libraries unless they pool their resources in a county or regional system."

#### Thing of past

Whether beneficial or not, Carnegie-size giving to public libraries is a thing of the past. The 25 largest grants to libraries in 1982, the most recent figures available, all went to colleges. An exception is the current offer of the Andrew A. Mellon Foundation to award \$500 grants to small libraries toward the purchase of the "Library of America," a uniformly bound set of the works of America's foremost authors. The foundation is making available \$500,000, which will allow 1,000 libraries that can raise locally a matching \$500, to acquire the set. Only libraries with book budgets of under \$20,000 are eligible.

There are many such in Massachusetts and in other states, but only a few will be able to take advantage of the offer because of Catch 22. In addition to having small book budgets, libraries applying must be open at least 30 hours a week and must employ a full-time librarian. Most low-budget libraries cannot meet these conditions.

Based on latest figures compiled by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, I believe that the only libraries in Berkshire County that qualify are Dalton, Lee, North Adams and Williamstown. It will be interesting to see whether Williamstown, which couldn't afford to accept a Carnegie building in 1903 will be able to come up with \$500 in 1985. John E. Sawyer, former president of Williams College and now head of the Andrew Mellon Foundation, may well be watching.

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# Andrew Carnegie and the free

## Steelmaker's largesse was responsible for 2,000 bui

By Samuel Sass

**D**uring the 1985 observance of National Library Week — April 14 to 20 — it is appropriate to remember the philanthropist whose name has become practically synonymous with library beneficence, and whose 150th birthday will occur next fall. That man is, of course, Andrew Carnegie, who was born on Nov. 25, 1835, in Dunfermline, Scotland, and died in Lenox, Mass., where he lived the last three years of his life.

### True university

Why did this fantastically wealthy industrialist give many millions for library buildings, nearly 2,000 in the United States, and another 1,000 in other English-speaking countries throughout the world? When asked why he was singling out libraries rather than colleges or hospitals or other charities, he responded, "My reason for selecting libraries was my belief, as Carlyle has recorded it, that the true university of these days is a collection of books and that such libraries are entitled to a first place for the elevation of the masses of the people."

There can be little doubt that he was remembering the difficulties he had obtaining books before he could afford to buy them. Carnegie's reputation as a voracious reader is legendary; there are stories told about his reading all of Shakespeare's plays after seeing a performance as a young man, and of memorizing parts.

Books were not easy to obtain if one couldn't afford the price and Andrew Carnegie was only a messenger boy in Allegheny, Pa., to which his family had emigrated from Scotland. He borrowed books from friends and then read in the local paper that a Col. James Anderson offered to make his private library of about 400 volumes available on Saturday afternoons to any "working boy" and to lend him a book for the following week. Carnegie was quick to take advantage of the offer, and years later said, "Col. Anderson opened to me the intellectual wealth of the world . . . I reveled week after week in books."

Col. Anderson was so pleased with the response to his offer that he expanded his collection, moved it to a building of its own and that subsequently became the first public library in Allegheny.

It's important to note that Carnegie gave gifts of library buildings



Claudette Callahan

**NEW MARLBORO** library was built in 1920 with \$5,000 from Andrew Carnegie and a matching \$5,000 from Mill River inventor Marcus H. Rogers, who at the age of 85 cast the 20 white concrete sections that formed the pillars and wheeled them to the site in his own barrow. The building still lacks a water supply and toilet facilities, but it is loaded with books.

## BOOKS

and gave no funds or endowments for books or maintenance. There were only four exceptions to that rule, and these were steel mill towns near Pittsburgh. In fact, his giving money for a building was contingent on an agreement that the community would guarantee to provide funds for the library's operation equal to 10 percent of the gift amount.

In offering to build a library for Pittsburgh, he wrote, "I am clearly of the opinion that it is only by the city maintaining its public libraries as it maintains its public schools that every citizen can be made to feel that he is a joint proprietor of them, and that the public library is for the public as a whole and not for any portion thereof; and I am

equally clear that unless a community is willing to maintain libraries at the public cost, that very little good can be obtained from them."

That principle is basic to the state incentive grants for libraries administered by the Massachusetts Board Of Library Commissioners. In order for a library to receive state funds, the community must appropriate local funds for the library and must meet standards relating to personnel and hours of opening, depending on the size of the community.

### Stipulations

The requirement that a city or town had to agree to appropriate annually 10 percent of the amount of Carnegie's gift for books and other expenses caused some communities

to renege after they had applied and had been granted funds. One of these was Williamstown, which in 1903 was offered \$10,000. The town fathers decided that they couldn't afford to maintain a library at 10 percent of that grant, which would have meant the expenditure of \$1,000 annually. The population of Williamstown at that time was approximately 5,000, which translates into 20 cents per person per year. That was considered too much to pay for a library.

A total of 225 communities in the United States turned down offers of buildings after they were made. Many objected to the 10 percent provisions. In some, the project fell through because of local controversies involving such matters as architecture and location. In others, including Ashfield, Mass., a local philanthropist stepped forward to replace Carnegie's money. Frequently, such local philanthropy came about because Carnegie money was considered tainted.

Controversy surrounding the acceptance of a Carnegie library

cont. on p. 1





Alan Cooperman

**CUTTING CAKE** at reception following swearing in ceremony yesterday is Lee's new postmaster, William G. Matthews, with his wife, Mary.

## Lee postmaster sworn in

LEE — William G. Matthews was sworn in as Lee's postmaster yesterday in ceremonies attended by more than 70 people at the Post Office on Eaton Street.

The audience, which included residents, schoolchildren, post office employees and more than 25 Berkshire postmasters, was invited after the ceremony to a reception featuring cookies baked by Matthews' wife, Mary.

Springfield Postmaster Jon M. Steele administered the oath of office. The Rev. Howard W. McCormick, pastor of St. Mary's Church, gave the invocation, and the Rev. Denis Ford, pastor of St. George's Church,

gave the benediction. A 2nd-grade class from St. Mary's School said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pittsfield Postmaster Frank Walker was master of ceremonies. He and three other Berkshire postmasters — Barbara Winn of Middlefield, Sandra Tynan of Housatonic and Peter Brown of Great Barrington — are members of the installation committee that planned the event.

Matthews, 49, was postmaster in Lanesboro for five years before coming to the Lee Post Office last month. He began his career with the U.S. Postal Service in 1967 as a part-time clerk in Pittsfield.

### Name in the News

## 'Jill' of all trades

LEE

When guests at the Black Swan Inn are eating breakfast, they have no way of knowing that a lawyer has scrambled their eggs and buttered their toast.

When they come for dinner, they cannot tell, and probably would never guess, that a licensed realtor is waiting on their tables.

And when they retire to their rooms for the night, they surely do not realize that a high school teacher has made the beds.

If, by chance, someone were to spill the beans and inform the guests that their cook was a lawyer, their waiter was a realtor, and their chambermaid was a teacher, they probably would be astonished.

But in their wildest imaginations, it is doubtful they would ever hit on the truth: the cook, waiter and chambermaid, as well as the lawyer, realtor and teacher, are all the same person.

Sallie Kate Kish, who owns and operates the Black Swan with her husband, George, is all of those people and more: a mother of three grown children, a member of Lee's Planning Board, a feminist with a passionate interest in politics.

Eight days ago, the Black Swan installed a swimming pool and the weather was glorious all week. Through the dining room windows, Sallie Kate has been watching the swimmers with envy; she hasn't had a free moment to take a dip.



Alan Cooperman  
Sallie Kate Kish  
Lawyer-innkeeper

When he retired in 1984 as vice president of Carolina Western Express, they sold their home in Gastonia, N.C., and poured their assets into building the 40-room Black Swan at a cost of more than \$1 million. Although they had resided in large homes throughout the country, they now were moving into a small apartment at one end of the inn. There was no question of buying a house because "everything went into this," Sallie Kate said, gestur-

Sallie Kate, 49, was born in Ravenswood, W.Va., where her father was president of a savings bank that her grandfather had founded in 1905. Her mother, a retired schoolteacher, is descended from settlers who came to Massachusetts in 1630.

As a girl, Sallie Kate said, she was a tomboy who liked to hunt and fish with her father, the local scoutmaster. She went to Hannah More Academy, an Episcopal girls' boarding school near Baltimore, and graduated in 1957 from Wilson College in Chambersburg, Pa. After teaching in a rural elementary school for a year, she returned to Hannah More as a history instructor.

That's where she met George, a native of Hungary who had fled to the United States after fighting the Soviets in the 1956 uprising. His sister was a ballet teacher at Hannah More, and she introduced them. At the time, his name was written "Kiss," although it was pronounced "Kish" (rhymes with wish). The future Mrs. Kish insisted on a change in spelling.

"I was a schoolteacher," she recalled. "And I certainly wasn't about to write 'Kiss' on the blackboard."

Married for 24 years, they have three children: Alexander, 21, who will be a senior this fall at Guilford College in North Carolina; Sallie's younger son, George, who is a sophomore at Smith

(continued)



## Obituaries and Dr. Rustin McIntosh, 91; directed Babies Hospital

TYRINGHAM — Dr. Rustin McIntosh, 91, of Mountain Brook Farm on Main Road, a nationally known pediatrician and former director of the Babies Hospital at Columbia Medical School, died Saturday at home. He had recently been under treatment for a heart ailment.

Dr. McIntosh, well-known locally for his ambitious vegetable gardens and his fondness for performing chamber music, was born in Omaha, Neb., Sept. 29, 1894, the son of James H. and Claire Rustin McIntosh. He lived in Omaha until 1900, when his father, who was a lawyer, moved the family to New York City.

Dr. McIntosh attended schools in Yonkers, N.Y., and then went to Phillips Academy in Exeter, N.H. He entered the pre-med program at Harvard University, graduating with the class of 1914, and went on to Harvard Medical School.

He graduated in 1918 and joined the Army. He and was assigned to a base hospital in France and was, for a time, battalion surgeon with a Marine Division that had fought at Chateau-Thierry in Northern France. As a result of service on the front, the French government awarded Dr. McIntosh the croix de guerre.

After the war, he was an intern at Harvard Medical School. He did his residency at the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia Medical School in New York City.

Dr. McIntosh maintained a private pediatrics practice in New York City for four years. In 1926, he was awarded a fellowship at Johns Hopkins Medical School. He remained there three years and was

then appointed professor of pediatrics and director of the Babies Hospital at Columbia Medical. He held that post for 30 years until 1966 when he retired. He spent the next two years as a consultant to the New York City Department of Health.

Dr. McIntosh and his wife, Millicent, a teacher who served as dean and then president of Barnard College, retired to Tyringham. They had owned a home in Tyringham since 1934. They were drawn to town in part because of Dr. McIntosh's close friendship with members of the Gilder family. He regularly performed on the viola and piano in informal chamber music concerts with, among others, the late Francesca Gilder.

He maintained his interest in medicine and read widely in the field of medical research. He cultivated two large vegetable gardens. His wife said yesterday that his corn crop last year, which he harvested at the age of 90, was his best ever. She said he was "in wonderful health" until the onset of his heart ailment.

Besides his wife of 54 years, the former Millicent Carey, he leaves four sons, James H. McIntosh of Ann Arbor, Mich., Rustin Carey McIntosh of Providence, R.I., Dr. Kenneth McIntosh of West Newton, Mass., and Richard McIntosh of Boulder, Colo.; a daughter, Mrs. Susan Lloyd, of Exeter, N.H., and 10 grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at the Tyringham Church on March 1 at 11 a.m.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests memorial donations to Recording for the Blind in care of the Lenox Library or to the Tyringham Schoolhouse Fund.

## William M. Murphy dies at 58; was chairman of Lee Selectmen

LEE — William M. Murphy, 58, chairman of the Lee Board of Selectmen and long active in a wide variety of civic, religious and labor activities, died Tuesday night at Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield after a long illness.

Born in New York City on Feb. 15, 1926, son of Richard and Julia Kelly Murphy, he was a graduate of Holy Name High School there.

On Aug. 6, 1949, he married the former Dorothy Bisson. They moved in 1952 to Lee, where Mr. Murphy had been employed ever since at what are now the Lee mills of Kimberly-Clark Corp.

He was a director of State Credit Union Association, had filled several offices with the Spinc federal credit union at the Lee mills, was steward there of Local 78, United Paper Makers and Paper Workers, and was general chairman of the annual union-management retirees party.

In the Knights of Columbus, Mr. Murphy was a member and past grand knight of the Berkshire Hills Council, had served as a district deputy, was a member of the Bishop Conaty 4th-Degree Assembly honor guard and was a past faithful



William M. Murphy

navigator. He was also a member of St. Mary's Church choir and the Pro-Life Group, and past president of the Irish-American Organization and of the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

Mr. Murphy was a member of the County Advisory Committee, Berk-

shire County Sheriffs Association, Lee Sportsmen's Association and American Association of Retired Persons. He was a former member of 69th Infantry Division National Guard of New York.

Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Shaun P. Murphy, petty officer first class with the Navy in San Diego, Calif.; three daughters, Mrs. Dorothy Murphy-Hanson of Richmond, N.C., and Mrs. Catherine Rounsaville of Rochester; four brothers, Richard Murphy of New York City, Thomas Murphy of Highland, N.J., James Murphy of Richfield Park, N.J., and Kevin Murphy of East Northport, N.Y., and a grandchild.

Calling hours at the Kelly Funeral Home are today from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9. The funeral will be tomorrow at 9:15 a.m. from the funeral home, with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at St. Mary's Church. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Members of the Lee Fire Company will meet at the funeral home tonight at 7, and the Knights of Columbus will meet there at 8. In lieu of flowers, the family has suggested memorial donations either to the Cancer Society or to St. Mary's Church.

## Obituaries and Funerals

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## Author Taylor Caldwell

1985 New York Times News Service

GREENWICH, Conn. — Taylor Caldwell, one of the world's most prolific best-selling authors, has died of pulmonary failure at her home.

Caldwell, who died Friday, was 84 years old and suffered from lung cancer. She had a stroke in May 1980 that left her paralyzed and speechless. She had by then written more than 30 novels.

Her 1981 best-seller, "Answer as a Man," published after her stroke, was a story of a rags-to-riches rise against great odds; it made The New York Times best-seller list before its official publication date, and partly fulfilled a two-book, \$3.9 million contract she had signed in 1980 with G.P. Putnam's Sons.

She was described by Orville Prescott in The New York Times in 1945 — only seven years after the publication of her first novel in 1938 — as "one of the most industrious of our contemporary novelists." "Each year sees a new book fresh from her smoking typewriter," he wrote, adding that her novels were "more than life size but far from natural."

Her first published novel, immediately successful, was "Dynasty of Death," about a dynasty of munitions makers; she ultimately wrote

three novels concerning this imaginary family, and other books on dynasties whose fortunes were based on steel, textiles and railroading. The getting and spending of large sums of money was a principal preoccupation of her novels. Other subjects were historical figures, such as Cardinal Richelieu and Genghis Khan.

Three of her books — including "Dear and Glorious Physician," based on the life of St. Luke — are among the best-selling religious novels of all time.

### Melodrama her stock

Not sweet romance but melodrama was her stock in trade, laced increasingly with her own conservative political opinions. Two of her novels — one of them "Captains and the Kings," the saga of an Irish-American highly reminiscent of Joseph P. Kennedy — became the bases for television mini-series.

Caldwell, who said her greatest inspiration was "the anticipation of big checks," was enormously popular with readers.

By 1980, one paperback house alone had published 25 million copies of Caldwell books — including "Captains and the Kings," which sold 4.5 million copies. Back in 1946, "This Side of Innocence" set a re-

cord for Literary Guild selections, selling more than 1 million copies.

She was as predictably panned by the critics as she was purchased by her reading public. "Steamroller" was the adjective for her prose used by one critic; another reviewer noted that she tooled on timelessly, "hardly shifting gears from one volume to the next."

Prescott, however, in a review of "The Wide House" in the Times in 1945, wrote that while its style was creaking and antiquated, the book was "still surprisingly effective." He noted that, though the author's "characters may be caricatures, they never lack vitality and force."

"Her story may be fantastic, but there is plenty of it," he wrote. "Things keep happening in these tumultuous pages."

To achieve this, Caldwell generally wrote through the night, working in nightclothes at her electric typewriter. Her success began at the age of 38, after years of what she later described as excruciating efforts and disappointments — years so painful that she maintained her outlook on life was permanently clouded. They were, she said in 1976, "endless years of writing."

In fact, she wrote her first novel, she recalled, at the age of 12, a futu-

## Discount pharmacy slated to open in Lee next month

LEE — A Rite-Aid discount pharmacy will open in the former Adams Super Market on Park Street within the next month, the building's owner said yesterday.

Workmen have been partitioning the 14,000-square-foot structure into several stores, but only two tenants are certain: Rite-Aid and the Lee Package Store, which will remain in its current quarters at the western end of the building.

The owner, Paul Gordon of Albany, said yesterday he is "talking to a number" of possible tenants but is not ready to announce their names. There is still space available, he said.

Rite-Aid is a Pennsylvania-based chain of more than 1,100 pharmacies in 18 states. It has two stores in Pittsfield and two in North Adams. Gordon has hired DePaolo & Son, a

general contractor from Schenectady, N.Y., to design and oversee the renovations.

The Adams market closed last November, when the chain of seven Adams stores in Berkshire County was sold to Big Y Foods Inc. of Springfield.





**HISTORIC SCHOOLHOUSE** in Lee was slated in 1981 to become a museum, but never opened. Chamber of Commerce now is considering making it a tourist information center. Alan Cooperman

## Lee Chamber of Commerce eyes schoolhouse for tourist center

By Alan Cooperman

LEE — The Chamber of Commerce may take over the former Bradley Street School this year and convert it into a tourist information center with historical exhibits and public bathrooms, chamber officials said yesterday.

The Selectmen have complained that peeling paint and broken clapboards make the building, which is directly across Eaton Street from the post office, an eyesore.

Peter W. Brown, president of the chamber, said a committee of businessmen is looking into the cost of renovating the 22-by-44-foot, one-story structure.

Brown estimated that the renovations would cost at least \$5,000 and could easily go over the \$10,000 mark.

The problem, he quickly added, is that the chamber does not have that kind of money. "We can raise some, I'm sure," he said. "But I don't know how much."

At present, the building belongs to the Ferncliff Association, a historical society that raised \$4,500 to move the building from its original location to Eaton Street in May 1981. The following year, the association raised another \$3,500 to repair

the roof, with the intention of making the building into a museum that would include exhibits on papermaking and the history of the town.

However, little has happened in the last three years. New windows have been installed to prevent leakage, but the building is closed, and the exterior has been deteriorating.

Members of the association, including its president, Daniel R. Sullivan, said last night they would be happy to see the Chamber of Commerce take over.

One member, Sandra Caropreso, said a few people did most of the fund raising and work on the building in 1981 and 1982, and those people eventually became "burned out." She said the chamber may be the building's "last chance" for survival.

"If they don't take it over, I'm afraid it will just be torn down," she said.

Sullivan said the building's interior walls, which are made of plaster, are crumbling and need to be replaced by fiberboard. In addition, he said, the building needs a new floor, ceiling and plumbing.

Peter W. Eberth, a Chamber of Commerce member who has taken an interest in the project, said the

chamber needs to obtain cost estimates, raise funds and talk with the Selectmen about leasing the schoolhouse and the land it sits on, which is owned by the town. He said renovations probably would not begin until the spring.

### Bloodmobile due at Lee High School

LEE — The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be visiting Lee High School on Monday, Jan. 13, from 8:30 until 1:30 in the music room.

Anyone who has not donated in the past 8 weeks, weighs 110 pounds, is 17 (with parent's consent) or older and is in good health is encouraged to donate. People are encouraged to make appointments so they will not be kept waiting.

Further information is available by calling the Berkshire County Chapter of the American Red Cross at 1-800-332-2030.

### Blood pressure clinic to be held in Windsor

WINDSOR — The Pittsfield Visiting Nurse Association will sponsor a free blood pressure and immunization clinic for residents Wednesday, Jan. 22, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Town Hall.

## Lee eyes upgrading of parks

4/16/85  
LEE — Residents interested in improving the town's parks and recreational facilities will meet tomorrow at 7 p.m. at the Community Center to discuss possible projects, including construction of a new community center and public swimming pool.

The Lee Conservation Commission has received a \$2,000 grant to study possible uses of open space in the town. More than 30 residents turned out for an initial meeting two weeks ago, but the commission is still seeking help and advice, according to Joan D. Clemons of Devon Road, a member.

The Lee Youth Association, which purchased the town's current Community Center from the Stockbridge Grange for \$18,000 last spring, has gradually renovated the first floor of the white clapboard structure. With help from Lee High School's housebuilding class, taught by Arnold Scaramuzzi of Tryingham, the association plans to start work on the second floor in the fall.

Janet Pompei, director of the association, said the second floor will be turned into a crafts and reading room, office and conference area. The conference room will be available to many community groups, including Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Lee High School's Key Club, she said.

The cost of the project, estimated at \$5,000, will come from funds donated by the Catholic Stewardship Appeal, Pompei said. Although the association is proceeding to fix up the community center, she said, the building might someday be sold to raise money for a larger, more modern facility elsewhere in town.



# Lee ZBA grants Hillcrest a permit for 'health center'

By Alan Cooperman

LEE — The Zoning Board of Appeals yesterday granted Hillcrest Hospital a special permit to convert Dr. Bernard M. Collins's veterinary clinic on Stockbridge Road into a "family health center."

Hillcrest plans to buy the 3-acre property from Collins at an undisclosed price and to open the health center Sept. 1, said Albert A. Ingegner III, the hospital's director of real estate development.

The ZBA voted 4-0 in favor of the permit after a 30-minute public hearing attended by about 15 people at the Airolodi Building on Railroad Street. Several abutters asked questions during the hearing about parking, signs, traffic and possible future expansion of the health center, but no one spoke against the application.

One of the neighbors, William J. Maroney Jr., said he was sorry to see Collins leave but realized no one could expect the veterinarian to practice there forever and felt Hillcrest was as good a replacement as residents could hope for.

"I think we're kind of lucking out to have Hillcrest look at the property," he said. "From what I've seen of their [the hospital's] other facilities and businesses, they'll take good care of it."

Collins said after the hearing that he intends to continue to practice veterinary medicine in Lee, but had not decided exactly where and in what capacity. Noting that he started taking care of animals 50 years ago for his father, also a veterinarian, Collins said he loves the practice and could never give it up. "It's my life," he said.

## ZBA vote

Daniel Sullivan, chairman of the ZBA, abstained from voting on the petition because he is an abutter. Pauline E. Pollard, Robert Macintosh, Delores Loring and Peter Biasin voted in favor.

Under Lee's bylaws, hospitals are allowed along Stockbridge Road, which is in an R-30 (residential) zone, with a special permit from the ZBA. No variance is necessary.

Hillcrest plans to use the family health center as a branch office for its Community Health Plan, a health maintenance organization that provides comprehensive medical services for a monthly fee. Members of the plan will be able to see a physician at the center for just \$2 per visit.

In addition, Hillcrest Administrator Eugene A. Dellea said the center will accept patients who choose to go there on a traditional "fee for service" basis, including people on Medicare and Medicaid.

"We will not discriminate against

anybody," he said.

Dellea said the center will have an initial staff of two family practitioners, a part-time pediatrician, a nurse-practitioner, a registered nurse and a receptionist. At least one physician and a nurse will be there weekdays during business hours, but the center will close at night and on weekends, he said.

Dellea said the center will offer "the traditional services available in a physician's office," plus some minor surgery, such as removal of cysts.

## 40 patients daily

In response to questions from abutters, Dellea and Ingegner said the hospital had no plans for enlargement of the building or for major increases in staff. Several specialists may work at the family health center on a part-time basis, but the facility probably will not handle more than 40 patients a day, they said.

By comparison, Collins said, 50 to 60 people often bring pets to the veterinary clinic on a single day.

Dellea and Ingegner said Hillcrest will erect a "tasteful" sign and maintain the property meticulously.

No new roads or parking facilities are needed, they said.

While the center will have X-ray and laboratory facilities, it will not contain an emergency room. Occasionally, emergency care may be provided if a physician on duty deems it appropriate, but ambulances generally will continue to take accident victims from the Lee area to hospitals in Great Barrington or Pittsfield, they said.

Lillian Schmidt, owner of Haus Andreas, an inn next to the veterinary clinic, asked whether the center would compete with Suburban Medical Associates, a joint practice of four physicians with offices on the other side of Stockbridge Road. Dellea answered that the center "will be different" from Suburban Medical Associates, but "it will also be competitive."

Asked by Joseph Savery whether Hillcrest was certain there is a need for such a facility in Lee, Dellea said the hospital had made an "extensive market study" and believes there is great demand for a health maintenance organization in the Lee area.

"We're bringing a choice, a different kind of health care," he said.

# Group home for retarded to be constructed in Lee

By Alan Cooperman

LEE — Representatives of the state Department of Mental Health, Lee Housing Authority and Berkshire County Regional Housing Authority this week outlined plans to build a group home for eight mentally retarded people on Marble Street.

All three agencies plan to take a hand in the project, which is funded by a \$240,000 state grant. The regional housing authority will build the two-story structure, then turn it over to the Lee Housing Authority, which will own it. The Department of Mental Health will lease it and take charge of its operation.

At a public hearing Monday night at the Senior Center on Railroad Street, David J. Osterhout, execu-

said he thinks Lee is being turned into "a dumping ground" for retarded people.

Francis J. Foley, a member of the local housing authority, emphatically denied Navin's charge. He said group homes are being built throughout the county and the state for people who previously resided in state mental hospitals and schools for the retarded. Institutions like the state school in Belchertown are being closed, and housing must be provided for their former residents, he said.

Foley added that the local housing authority will keep close tabs on the operation of the group home, which will have staff on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week. "You won't even know those people [the retarded residents] are there," he

For example, he said, if a group home in Great Barrington contained severely handicapped older men, while one in Stockbridge housed younger men capable of receiving vocational training, a mildly retarded 25-year-old man would be better off living in the Stockbridge home, even if his family resided in Great Barrington.

Melanie Zanini, executive director of the Lee Housing Authority, said she believes the elderly residents of Brown Memorial Court are in favor of the project.

Osterhout said the facility will be built in conformance to the strictest building codes, which require access ramps for the handicapped and fire protection sprinklers. Tentative floor plans circulated at the hearing showed a 3,900-square-foot building with four bedrooms on each floor, plus a living room, dining room, bathrooms, kitchen and staff quarters.

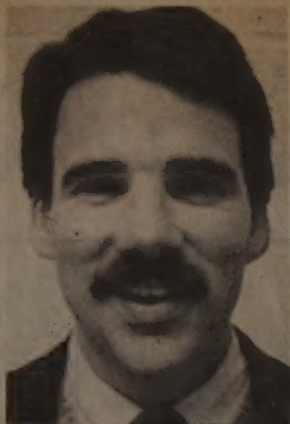


...Main Street and...





Sallie Kate Kish



Joseph M. Toole



Thomas E. Unsworth



Judith L. Olds

## Kish, Toole, Unsworth, Olds are winners in Lee election

LEE — Sallie Kate Kish, running for her first town office, won a close race for the one-year seat on the Planning Board yesterday by topping Gary M. Naventi 284-259.

Incumbents won all other contested races in yesterday's annual town election. Joseph M. Toole retained his position as moderator with a 448-92 victory over challenger Dolores S. Tucker. Two School Committee members won re-election as Thomas E. Unsworth received 352 votes and Judith L. Olds took 332 votes. Frederick L. Simmons Jr., seeking to get on the committee, received 222 votes.

A total of 579 voters turned out at the Senior Center on Railroad Street for the election. The town has 3,176 eligible voters, according to Town Clerk John J. Nagle.

He attributed the relatively light showing to having no contest in the race for selectman. William D. Bean was the sole candidate to replace late Selectmen Chairman William M. Murphy. Bean received 434 votes.

Nagle also noted that district representatives elected yesterday will be eligible to participate in the continuation of the annual town meeting May 23. The new selectman will also be able to participate, Nagle said.

Kish is a Realtor and an attorney. She and her husband, Lazzlo George Kish, own the 40-room Black Swan Inn at the south end of Laurel Lake. They had a summer home in Lee for 10 years, and moved there permanently last June.

Lazzlo Kish was also elected to town office as one of two people to earn one-year seats as representa-

tives from District 6. With a write-in campaign, Dennis Mountain won the other one-year representative position in District 6. That race had four other write-in candidates.

Kish topped the candidates with 39 votes, and Mountain finished second with nine votes. Nagle said Mountain needed a minimum of eight votes to qualify for the position, so he was a winner.

In the only other contested representative race, four candidates sought three positions in District 2. Incumbent Robert Giarolo had 63 votes, Neil F. Clarke got 284 and Nelson Daley received 76. Michael McManmon finished fourth with 43 votes.

### The results:

**Moderator**  
(Elect 1, 1 year)  
\*Joseph M. Toole 448  
Dolores S. Tucker 92

**Selectman**  
(Elect 1, 3 years)  
William D. Bean 434

**Assessor**  
(Elect 1, 3 years)  
\*Ann Marie Collins 431

**Town Clerk**  
(Elect 1, 3 years)  
\*John J. Nagle 506

**Town Treasurer**  
(Elect 1, 3 years)  
\*John J. Nagle 501

**School Committee**  
(Elect 2, 3 years)  
\*Thomas E. Unsworth 352  
Judith L. Olds 332  
Frederick L. Simmons Jr. 222

**Planning Board**  
(Elect 1, 5 years)  
\*Lewis V. Failla 334

**Planning Board**  
(Elect 1, 3 years)  
\*Richard J. Ramsey 368

**Planning Board**  
(Elect 1, 1 year)  
Sallie Kate Kish 284  
Gary M. Naventi 259

**Housing Authority**  
(Elect 1, 5 years)  
\*Daniel J. Mahoney 417

**Board of Health**  
(Elect 1, 3 years)  
\*Margaret M. Wellspeak 457

**Constable**  
(Elect 4, 3 years)  
\*Edward M. Briggs Jr. 387  
\*Edward J. Driscoll 371  
\*John L. Piacquadio 364  
\*Pauline E. Pollard 385

Election for district representatives for three years. The results are as follows:

**District 1**  
(Elect 3, 3 years)  
\*Elizabeth E. Leahey 52  
\*Edith Parker 40  
\*Henry Greiner 44

**District 2**  
(Elect 3, 3 years)  
\*Robert Giarolo 63  
Neil F. Clarke 80  
Nelson Daley 76  
Michael McManmon 43

**District 3**  
(Elect 3, 3 years)  
\*George Allen 62  
\*Angelo DiGrigoli 49

**District 4**  
(Elect 3, 3 years)  
\*Frank P. Consolati 76  
\*Annette Gordon 72  
\*Robert Lester 58

**District 5**  
(Elect 3, 3 years)  
\*Frank J. Kelly 84  
\*William B. Navin 78  
\*Henry Plekos 52

**District 5**  
(Elect 1, 1 year)  
John Davidson 66

**District 6**  
(Elect 3, 3 years)  
\*Frank A. Consolati 73  
\*Francis D. Foley Jr. 70  
\*John T. Kelly 75

**District 6**  
(Elect 2, 1 year)  
Lazzlo George Kish 39  
\*Richard Gerlach 2  
\*John Glomb 1  
\*Robert Jirak 5  
\*Dennis Mountain 9  
\*Stewart Dalheim 3  
\*denotes incumbent  
\*denotes write-in

Herbert said the railway's board of directors is "beginning to plan for the correct restoration of the station, using original hardware, fixtures and paint colors. The roof, which is now asphalt, should be replaced to slate and tin, he said.

"To do it right will take a few years and a lot of dollars," he said. "Obviously, we need benefactors, whether they're state, federal or private."

While buying a new locomotive, establishing the Hoosac Tunnel Society as a railroad museum and planning for the future of the Lenox station, the Scenic Railway has kept on making its 2-hour round-trip runs from Lee to Great Barrington, with whistle stops in Stockbridge and Housatonic. On average, between 400 and 500 people have been riding the scenic rails each weekend, Herbert said. Tickets and information are available at Sullivan's Station.

## Third season begins Friday on Mount Greylock

Bascom Lodge, which will be in its third season of operation under the Appalachian Mountain Club on the Mount Greylock summit, will open Friday with expansions to the programs of the past two years.

The lodge, a rustic stone and wood structure on the 3,491 foot peak, offers programs ranging from informational services and evening campfires to short tours and guided hikes.

This season the club plans to host family-style breakfasts and dinners served at the lodge daily from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. in addition to an expanded luncheon menu.

The club also plans to offer a series of one- and two-day workshops covering topics that include

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*Continued from p. 2*





**HIGH SPIRITS** marked Lee High School hockey team's awards banquet last night, where U.S. Rep. Silvio O. Conte, left, shared a joke with coach Paul E. Porter and Porter's wife, Nancy.

Alan Cooperman

## Conte praises Lee hockey team for 'breaking the ice' in Russia

By Alan Cooperman

LEE — Although Lee High School's hockey team "did not blow the Soviets off the ice," its recent tour of Russia "certainly broke a lot of ice," U.S. Rep. Silvio O. Conte, R-Pittsfield, said last night.

Conte, who returned last week from an official visit to Moscow, praised the team for its unofficial effort to improve relations between the United States and the Soviet Union.

"I know you guys had fun," he told the players. "But I also want you to know that I think your trip was very important."

Speaking at the team's annual awards banquet at Greenock Country Club, the veteran congressman said he "really got a warm feeling" when he heard that the Lee squad had exchanged players with a Soviet youth team during an exhibition game in Moscow.

"I am sure that nobody could maintain a tough guy facade when you swapped uniforms with the So-

viet team," he said. "That kind of comradeship is what we need to break down barriers to understanding between our countries."

State Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins, D-Lee, also congratulated the Lee players and their coach, Paul E. Porter of Great Barrington.

"Not only has this trip affected your lives," he said. "But just imagine those kids you played hockey with. You affected their lives, too."

Hodgkins, who had arranged for the Massachusetts Legislature to issue a proclamation honoring the team before its departure, brought copies of the document for each of the players.

About 75 people, including the players, their parents and members of the Lee School Committee, attended the banquet. They gave standing ovations to Porter and Superintendent of Schools Vahan J. Khachadoorian.

Khachadoorian, who accompanied the team on the 11-day tour, said he was proud of the players' behavior,

both on and off the ice. He said they "hit hard" but demonstrated good sportsmanship and were a credit to their nation.

The superintendent also gave triple thanks: to the School Committee for letting the team miss a week of school, to the hockey booster club for raising \$20,000 to subsidize the trip and to Porter for suggesting and arranging the journey.

Porter responded that "anything that's done successfully is not done by one person alone." He said the tour, called "Friendship '85," was the result of efforts by the School Committee, Khachadoorian, Principal Henry T. Zukowski, the student body, parents and many residents and businesses that donated money. But he saved his deepest praise for his players.

"I couldn't have taken a better group of young guys," he said.

Lee Selectmen will meet tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. this week instead

## Scenic Railway highballing ahead with new locomotive and caboose

By Alan Cooperman

LEE — The Berkshire Scenic Railway, which has been attracting between 400 and 500 passengers each weekend, soon will get a second locomotive and a big red caboose.

John W. Herbert of Theresa Terrace, president of the non-profit railway, said he bought the caboose with his own money from the Providence & Worcester Railroad and will loan it to the scenic railway for use as a rolling gift shop.

He added that the caboose is "very large" — even as cabooses go — and has a handsome cupola on top. It is expected to arrive in Lee toward the end of the month, he said.

The second locomotive, a 115-ton, 800-horsepower General Motors SW-8, is both heavier and more powerful than the railway's current workhorse, which is an 80-ton, 500-horsepower General Electric Center Cab.

Herbert said Rep. Silvio O. Conte, R-Pittsfield, helped arrange for the railway to buy it from Conrail at the "bargain price" of \$12,500. Conrail sent the locomotive on its way to Lee June 17, and it probably will arrive this week, he said.

Negotiations to purchase the second locomotive began last August when the GE Center Cab's No. 2 engine failed because of a damaged bearing on the crankshaft. That breakdown forced the Scenic Railway to rent a replacement for about 75 days.

Having two locomotives will make the railway's maintenance and restoration efforts easier, because volunteers will be able to work on whichever one is not in use, Herbert said.

In addition, he said, if the tracks between Lee and North Adams are upgraded and the Scenic Railway gets clearance to extend its route to

The museum society is leasing its car to the railway, at the nominal price of \$1 a year, for use as a stationary exhibit hall. Volunteers already have repainted and polished the east side of the car's exterior, which faces the restaurant's parking lot. The west side is scheduled to be painted later this summer.

The 1926 Pennsylvania P-70 Coach was moved from North Adams to Lee after numerous delays and difficulties caused primarily by its weight, 65 tons. It had to be lifted onto the tracks, and one contractor who tried to move it on temporary wooden rails found that it kept bending the wood and slipping off.

Now that the car is finally in place, Herbert and others are assembling exhibits to go on two display tables, each 10 feet long and 3 feet wide, and six vertical display boards, each 5 feet square. People with potential exhibits, such as memorabilia about railroads in Berkshire County, are welcome to submit articles as either loans or tax-deductible donations, Herbert said.

Former station donated

In May, the former Lenox train station was donated to the railway by George W. Taylor and Joseph Consolini, owners of Peter Francese & Son Inc., a Lenox-based construction firm. The railway had been planning to move the station from its current site on Willow Creek Road behind Francese's headquarters to one of several possible locations in Lenox and Lee.

However, Herbert said, "there's kind of a movement afoot" to keep the station at its current site for historical reasons. Although such a plan "is OK with us," he added, it is problematic because the station is blocked from view by the Francese building.

Jan. 15, 1970

The Berkshire Eagle, Thursday

Lee

SOUTH BERKSHIRE BUREAU — Tel. 243-2424

## Library Basement Proposal Outlined by Building Unit

LEE — Tentative plans for the renovation of the basement of the Lee Library to provide badly needed space have been revealed by the Library Building Committee.

The project, termed a stopgap measure by the committee, would provide a children's program and reading room and additional storage facilities in the mostly unused basement. Primarily, the work would involve installation of wood paneling, vinyl tile and a new ceiling, along with a state-required emergency exit leading directly outdoors.

An article asking for transfer of \$14,687 from the War Rehabi-

litation Fund will be submitted by the library association for inclusion on the annual town meeting warrant. According to George H. Bagnaschi, association president, transferring the money from the war fund, which contains nearly \$90,000, will result in no cost to the town and no effect on the tax rate.

Long-Term Plans

In terming the project "stopgap," Bagnaschi said plans call for eventual construction of a \$325,000 addition to the present building. He added that, because a proposal for the addition was overwhelmingly defeated at the last annual town meeting, it will probably not come up again for consideration for a number of years.

Reasons for the need for additional space include wide participation by local children of the library's summer and year-round reading programs and the shortage of storage space for records and documents, he said. With the eventual construction of a building addition, the remodeled basement would be used for storage of publications and documents.

Plans for the renovations will be discussed tonight at 8 at the annual meeting of the library association. Association members will inspect the basement to get a firsthand idea of the potential space, Bagnaschi said.

cont. on p. 7



## Name in the News

## Comradely coach

LEE

Lee's hockey team is not a championship squad. In fact, it finished at the bottom of Berkshire County's Hennessy League this year. Yet, three weeks ago, it achieved instant stardom by touring the Soviet Union and playing two exhibition games against Russian junior teams.

This puzzles people. How did a team that does not contain a bunch of National Hockey League hotshots or Olympic hopefuls end up wearing U.S.A. jerseys and facing off with Moscow's Spartaks? The answer is simple: Paul E. Porter.

Porter, 36, was once a true hot-shot, with dreams of a pro hockey career. Since 1973, he has been coaching youth teams in Berkshire County, and for the last three seasons, he has been in charge of the Lee team.

He arranged the 10-day tour after months of making and cultivating contacts at the Soviet Embassy, U.S. State Department and International Ice Hockey Federation. He also carefully prepared his team, stressing that what mattered was not winning or losing, but learning about another nation and improving international understanding.

Although the team lost both its games in Russia to vastly superior squads, he says, the tour "really could not have gone better."

What kind of coach is Porter? At Lee High School, everyone knows when the hockey team has a game. The players arrive in the morning wearing coats and ties, per order of the coach.

"If they wear a tie, they act a little differently," he explains. "It's a matter of respect."

Respect is something Porter receives easily, and in abundance, from his players. It is as though he doesn't try. But he does.

He says he treats each of his players as an individual, and while he is a strict disciplinarian, he is careful never to "dress down" a member of the team in front of his peers.

"If there's a problem, I always take the person aside or go to the locker room," he says. "The peer pressure in high school is really tough. We're supposed to help them through it, not make it worse."

Born and raised in Boston, Porter started playing hockey at age 5. His father died when he was 17. His mother, Clara, is an administrative



Alan Cooperman

Paul E. Porter

*Winning isn't everything*

assistant in the geology department at Boston College, where he often skated as a boy.

Always a good athlete, he attended Catholic schools and the New Preparatory School, a private school in Cambridge, playing football as well as hockey. During a football game in his junior year at St. Mary's High in Brookline, he broke his neck, dislocated his spinal cord and ruptured a disc in his back. Taken by ambulance to a hospital, he came close to death. But telling the story now, he laughs.

Several priests from Boston College, who knew him through his mother, rushed to his bedside, he says. Arriving a few minutes apart, they each administered the last rites, not realizing that another priest had just left.

"I guess they gave me the sacrament three or four times," Porter says. "By the fourth time, I was going straight to heaven, no questions asked."

Despite that injury, he was skating again within a few months. He was recruited as a hockey player by Boston College and Northeastern but left college at age 20 to play with a Canadian Junior A team in La Prairie, near Montreal. He later had a tryout with the Los Angeles Kings, a pro team. But, he says simply, "I didn't make the grade."

Of course, giving up dreams of a pro career was tough. But, Porter notes, he had had surgery on his right knee following an injury in a pickup game at Boston College in 1968. During that game, his skate got caught between the ice and the boards, resulting in torn cartilage and ligaments.

"I think I knew deep down inside that I would not make it as a pro," he says.

\* \* \*

In California, Porter worked three years as an investigator for a private detective agency and married the former Sandra Smith of Richmond. They moved to Berkshire County, and he began coaching Bantam teams at the Boys' Club in Pittsfield. He worked as operations manager of the former Big N store in Pittsfield for four years, then joined City Savings Bank, first as manager of its Dalton Avenue branch and later of its Great Barrington branch.

A year and a half ago, he became associate director of Construct Inc., a non-profit housing agency in Great Barrington, where he manages a low-interest mortgage program. He was divorced in 1980 and remarried the following year to the former Nancy Hitchcock of Sheffield, a Great Barrington police officer. He has a son by his first marriage, and she has five children from two previous marriages.

In his spare time, Porter likes to play golf, hunt and fish. He is also a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals and a part-time policeman in Great Barrington. He says he hopes to lead more hockey teams on trips to Europe and the Soviet Union.

"There's much more to be learned than you can get from a textbook," he says.

## Sonya Fedotowsky wins \$25 in contest

ADAMS — Sonya Fedotowsky, a 7th-grade student at St. Stanislaus Kostka School, received an honorable mention in the Massachusetts Arson Watch Reward Program poster contest.

The daughter of Alexander and Emily Fedotowsky of 82 Galvin Road, North Adams, she was one of 10 runners-up and will receive \$25. More than 400 students entered the statewide contest.



30,239

Average daily paid circulation of The Eagle for the period October 1, 1966-March 31, 1967, as filed with the Audit Bureau of Circulations subject to audit.

Second Section

## Stockbridge Editor-Author Killed in 2-Car Accident

STOCKBRIDGE — William J. Kehoe, 45, of Main Street was fatally injured Friday afternoon when his Volkswagen sedan collided head-on with another car on Route 7 just south of the Lee town line.

Kehoe, who moved here about 18 months ago and had lived here occasionally for a number of years, was an editor for Doubleday and Co., publishers in Garden City, N.Y., and was an author of young people's books and short stories.

Mrs. Arthur C. Johnson of 370 Churchill St., Pittsfield, driver of the second car, sustained a broken left wrist and an injured knee in the mishap. She underwent surgery Friday night at Pittsfield General Hospital and was reported in good condition.

### Chief Describes Crash

Dr. Carl A. Bergan of Lenox, associate medical examiner, attributed Kehoe's death to a

skull fracture and said he also received multiple fractures in the collision.

According to Stockbridge Police Chief William J. Obanhein, Kehoe was driving south about 300 feet south of the Lee town line on Route 7 when his car crossed into the opposite lane and collided head-on with Mrs. Johnson's northbound car. Tire tracks, Obanhein said, indicated that Kehoe's car had not skidded before the collision.

Both cars were extensively damaged on the front ends, Obanhein said.

Mrs. Johnson was treated at the scene by Dr. Edward W. Knight and then transported to the hospital.

Kehoe is survived by his mother, Mrs. Mabel Kehoe of Spencerport, N.Y. and one brother. His body was removed to the Kelly Funeral Home in Lee and will be taken to the Walker Funeral Home in Spencerport for services and burial next week.

## Miller appoints Rose to new Eagle position

Robert W. Rose has been named to the new post of vice president of operations for the Miller Newspapers, it was announced yesterday by Lawrence K. Miller, publisher of The Berkshire Eagle.

Miller also announced Rose's appointment as a director of Eagle Publishing Co., parent company of Miller Newspapers, which publishes The Eagle and the Berkshire Sampler in Massachusetts, The Bennington Banner and the Brattleboro Reformer in Vermont, the Register Citizen in Connecticut and four weekly newspapers in New York, Vermont and Connecticut.

In his new position Rose will function as chief financial officer of the Miller Newspaper group and assume many of the responsibilities held by Paul J. Major, who is general manager of the group. Major will retire Aug. 31.

### With Eagle 26 years

Rose, 48-year-old Pittsfield native, has been with Eagle Publishing for 26 years and has been business manager for the past 13 years. He joined The Eagle in 1959 as a classified advertising salesman and was made classified advertising manager in 1964. He transferred to the business office staff in 1966.

He has attended three seminars at the American Press Institute, two for newspaper business executives and one for advertising personnel. He also has attended business programs conducted by Harvard business school and the University of Chicago.

He is a graduate of the General Motors Institute in Flint, Mich., and has taken courses at Berkshire Community College and Western New England College in business, law, economics and accounting.

Rose is active in the Central Berkshire Chamber of Commerce as a member of the board and executive committee and a vice chairman of economic development. At Berkshire Medical Center, he is on the



Robert W. Rose  
Chief financial officer

development and planning committees.

Long active in the Berkshire United Way, he was president of that organization from 1977 to 1979, when he was named United Way volunteer of the year. He was chairman of the United Way nominating committee this year and currently is chairman of the campaign planning committee.

Rose is an officer of the Rose Agency, a real estate and development firm operated by his wife, Carol Ann Prentiss Rose, and a son, Jeffrey H. Rose.

He is a member and a former deacon of the First Baptist Church. He is a former director of the Kiwanis Club and of the Greater Pittsfield Jaycees.

Rose is the son of Howard C. Rose of 66 Whittier Ave. and the late Dorothy W. Rose. He and his wife, the daughter of Mrs. Howard Prentiss of Lenox and the late Mr. Prentiss, live at 902 West St. Besides Jeffrey, 27, their children are Keith R. Rose, 24, and Laurie Jean Rose, 22.

You are cordially invited  
to attend the  
DEDICATION CEREMONY  
for

**HYDE PLACE**  
the new elderly housing in Lee

Sunday, February 10, 1985  
2:00 P.M.

in the Fellowship Hall  
of the First Congregational Church

An OPEN HOUSE will follow  
at

**HYDE PLACE** 2:30 - 4:30 P.M.

Sponsored by:  
First Congregational Church of Lee  
Lee Elderly Housing Corporation  
Berkshire Housing Development Corporation

## Lee planners 4 to 1 against Tampa firm's housing plan

By Donna B. Mattoon

LEE — The Planning Board voted 4-1 Monday against endorsing a Florida firm's proposal to build 25 apartments on Laurel Street across from the state police barracks.

Members of the board tonight at 7 will "strongly urge" that the Zoning Board of Appeals deny the variance the project requires.

Xebec Inc. of Tampa, which has an option to buy the 6.5-acre parcel from John and Nicole Duvall, had applied for a special permit from the Selectmen and a variance from the ZBA.

The firm, which has proposed a similar project in Dalton and is constructing 25 apartments in North

Adams, said the \$1 million project would include four buildings with one- and two-bedroom units.

According to Chairman Louis Failla, the Planning Board has five major objections to the construction. Nevertheless, if the ZBA grants the variance, he has asked that final approval be postponed until the Planning Board has a chance to set down several stipulations.

In addition, the board will request that the ZBA continue the public meeting on the Xebec proposal to a later date, so that the Lee Housing Authority can also be consulted on the matter.

According to Failla, the housing authority has jurisdiction over any low-income or multiple-housing construction that is built with federal funds. While Xebec officials have already said that rents would not be subsidized, the construction would be financed with low-interest loans

provided by the federal Farmers Home Administration.

Objections to the project include concerns about inadequate frontage and non-compliance with the town's zoning bylaws.

Also, Failla said, the project calls for using only a small portion of the 6.5-acre parcel, thus leaving open the possibility for future construction.

### Lee High quiz team in playoff on TV

LEE — The Lee High School quiz team will appear on the television show "As Schools Match Wits" on Channel 22 Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in a playoff with Cheshire High School of Connecticut.

Members from Lee High are Jennifer Linton, Mark Navin, Sandi Lo-saw, Craig Story and Doug Parker, alternate. Kathy Hall is coach.



July 6, 1985

11.

# Stepping up the pace

Returning to school at age 29 with a full load of family responsibilities meant tight scheduling, meticulous organization and hard work for Lee's Joanne S. Larmon.

But it paid off in 1981 when she received her bachelor's degree in environmental studies and became the first older person from the area to graduate from Simon's Rock of Bard College in Great Barrington.

As the new president of the League of Women Voters of Central Berkshire and a volunteer in some half a dozen organizations, she is stepping up her already brisk pace. Larmon, now 38, says she attacks her volunteer projects as if she were being paid \$50,000 a year.

After serving an internship at the Center for Environmental Technology, she was hired for a federally-funded program for low-income elderly, visiting some 200 of the elderly and advising them on clothing, health and nutrition. Although her field of expertise is the environment, Larmon says, "My heart is with the elderly."

It was work with the elderly in her former home of Lock Haven, Pa., through FISH, a Christian service organization, that turned her into a dedicated volunteer. She now is on the board of Elder Services of Berkshire County and has served on its grant review committee for three years.

She prefers volunteer work that she really enjoys, and that includes the Lee Energy Committee — which she chairs — the Southern Berkshire Community Action Board, Focus on Women, Tanglewood and the Mount. In addition, she is a substitute teacher at Lee High School.

A resident of Lee for 10 years, she joined the League four years ago after attending a workshop at Focus on Women given by the late Joan R. Flood of Lenox, whom she considers a mentor and an inspiration.

Elected president in May, where she succeeds Joyce Greenberg who



Joanne S. Larmon  
Her heart's with the elderly

has moved on to the state League board. The challenge at the League, she says, is to mobilize its projects with fewer volunteers available. League membership is down from about 120 six or seven years ago to about 85, an attrition rate partly accelerated by an exodus to the workforce and partly caused by the League's pro-choice stand on the abortion issue.

With fewer and busier volunteers, "the days of thinking we have a volunteer to spend 10 or 12 hours a week on a project are gone," Larmon says. Projects are being restructured, she said, so that members can spend an hour or two, with a visible beginning and end. Other members will have to restrict their help to the financial variety, she said.

An organized person herself, she likes the organizational expertise of the task-oriented League, which has, she says, "all kinds of information at its fingertips."

One of the advantages Larmon

finds in volunteer work is she is better able to accommodate the activities of her two sports-minded children, Andrea, 15, a student at Lee High School, and Brett, 12, at Lee Central School. For her, family takes priority.

She and her husband William M. Larmon, manager of the Lee Mills of at Kimberly-Clark, Schweitzer Division, live on Highfield Drive. They married the week after her graduation from Becker Junior College in Worcester in 1967 with an associate's degree in business.

At Washington Academy, the public high school for Salem, N.Y., a small upstate town some 100 miles north of here, Larmon, then Joanne Shaler, played basketball in the days when girls' basketball wasn't part of the school budget and parents had to foot the cost of bus and coach.

Larmon's thesis, a requirement for graduation at Simon's Rock, was written during the 18 months she worked at CET and was on the development of an energy plan for Lee. It called for educational sessions on energy-saving measures. As a member of the Lee Energy Committee, Larmon also worked with the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission on a county energy plan.

In the League, she served for two years as representative to the Focus on Women committee, worked on the education and human resources committee and on a forum, "Women and Political Power."

Her volunteer obligations, combined with her parental ones, have cut back on her time for reading for pleasure rather than information, and she has pretty much set aside her needlepoint. She still manages to work in two or three swims a week in the Foxhollow pool.

But cooking, too, has suffered. With everybody on a different schedule, she says, "It's hard to make four meals a night."

Monday, June 17, 1985

## Marriages and Funerals

### Ora H. Fanning

LEE — Mrs. Ora H. Fanning, 82, of 26 Laurel St., a longtime teacher, died yesterday at Berkshire Medical Center after a short illness. She was the wife of Francis G. Fanning.

Born in Adams, the daughter of Joseph and Emma Shaver Brunell, she came to Lee as a child. She was a 1920 graduate of Lee High School and a 1924 graduate of the College of New Rochelle. A teacher for 26½ years, Mrs. Fanning taught in Pittsfield and Great Barrington schools, but the bulk of her career was spent at Lee High School. She retired from the English department there in 1967.

A communicant of St. Mary's Church, she was a member of the Berkshire County Retired Teachers Association and for many years was a director of the Lee Visiting Nurse Association. She was also a member of St. Mary-St. Martha Sodality and a charter member of the Lee Kiwani-Annes Club.

Besides her husband, she leaves a daughter, Miss Mary Ann Fanning, and a brother, C. Marcel Brunell, both of Lee.

The funeral will be held Wednesday morning from the Kelly Funeral Home at 9:15 with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at St. Mary's Church at 10.

Calling hours at the funeral home will be today from 7 to 9 and tomorrow from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9.

Friends may make donations in Mrs. Fanning's memory to St. Mary's Memorial Fund through the funeral home.



# Reception set Saturday to honor Miss Dennis' 50 years at library

LEE — One of the first things Betty Dennis did when she came to work at the Lee Library 50 years ago was remove the big, dark signs that admonished all visitors, "Silence!"

It was an auspicious beginning. Under her direction, the library has become a place where townspeople not only read books and newspapers, but also meet and greet each other — comfortably, in nor-

mal tones. There is no shouting or running in Miss Dennis's domain, but there is plenty of good talk.

"I never liked those 'silence' signs one bit," she says. "I think a library should be a place where people will come and feel free and happy. If you come to a place that's like a morgue, you just don't want to go in."

This Saturday, from 2 to 5 p.m., the Lee Library Association will

sponsor a reception to honor Miss Dennis for 50 years of making the public library a place where people can feel free and happy. All residents are invited.

Miss Dennis started working at the library in 1935, shortly after graduating from Lee High School. For seven years, she was an assistant, and in 1942, she succeeded Flora Saunders as head librarian.

## That all changed

When she was a child, she remembers, the library was patronized mainly by the "gentlemen and ladies" of the town because "they were the ones who had time to read." But that all changed with the Crash of 1929. While the Great Depression may have been a social tragedy, it was wonderful for readership.

"I remember so many men coming in here then," she says. "What did people have to do in those days except read?"

During World War II, there was a decline in use of the library, "as young people left the town for military service. And since the war, Miss Dennis says, "everything's changed."

One of the main factors, she says, is television. Many of the library's patrons ask for biographies or histories about people and events they have seen portrayed on TV. Specials on science and nature also have boosted demand for scientific books.

"Some people say television has hurt reading, but I don't think it has at all," she says.

Another factor in the library's evolution, according to Miss Dennis, is the accelerating pace of new discoveries in many fields. When she became a librarian, an encyclopedia could be expected to last 20 years or more. Now information changes so fast that the library buys at least one new encyclopedia every year.

Fiction always has been, and Miss Dennis believes, always will be, the library's most popular offering. But, she says, tastes are becoming more refined.

"The old-type, light, love stories are passe," she says. "People want more sophisticated reading today."

## The best change

The best change over the last 50 years, in Miss Dennis's opinion, has been the development of the children's book department. Her "pride and joy," she says, is the children's room, a spacious, carpeted area with toddler-sized tables and chairs, low shelves, a rocking horse and plenty of toys. It was created and named for Miss Dennis in 1978, when a \$271,000 addition tripled the floor space of the original marble building that had been erected in 1907.

In 1935, when the library's annual budget for books was less than \$300, few children's books were available. Now, the library spends more than \$17,000 a year on books, and a hefty part of that money goes for children's titles. The library's total circulation is 47,000 volumes per year, and 16,000 of those are children's books, Miss Dennis says.

One thing that hasn't changed, Miss Dennis says, is the character of the children themselves. "The little kiddos have always been great, and they still are," she says.

Another thing that has remained constant is Miss Dennis's sense of propriety and social grace. She treats her patrons with respect. Her language is clean, and her grammar is precise.

Although she remains an invaluable source of information for newspaper reporters, she objects strenuously to The Eagle's recent decision to omit the courtesy titles of Miss, Ms. and Mrs. before women's names in its news columns — which is why, for this one article, the clock has been turned back.



LEE LIBRARIAN Betty Dennis in the children's room that was named after her.

Alan Cooperman



Dorothy W. Chapman  
Doris J. Lamica

## Dalton librarian assumes duties

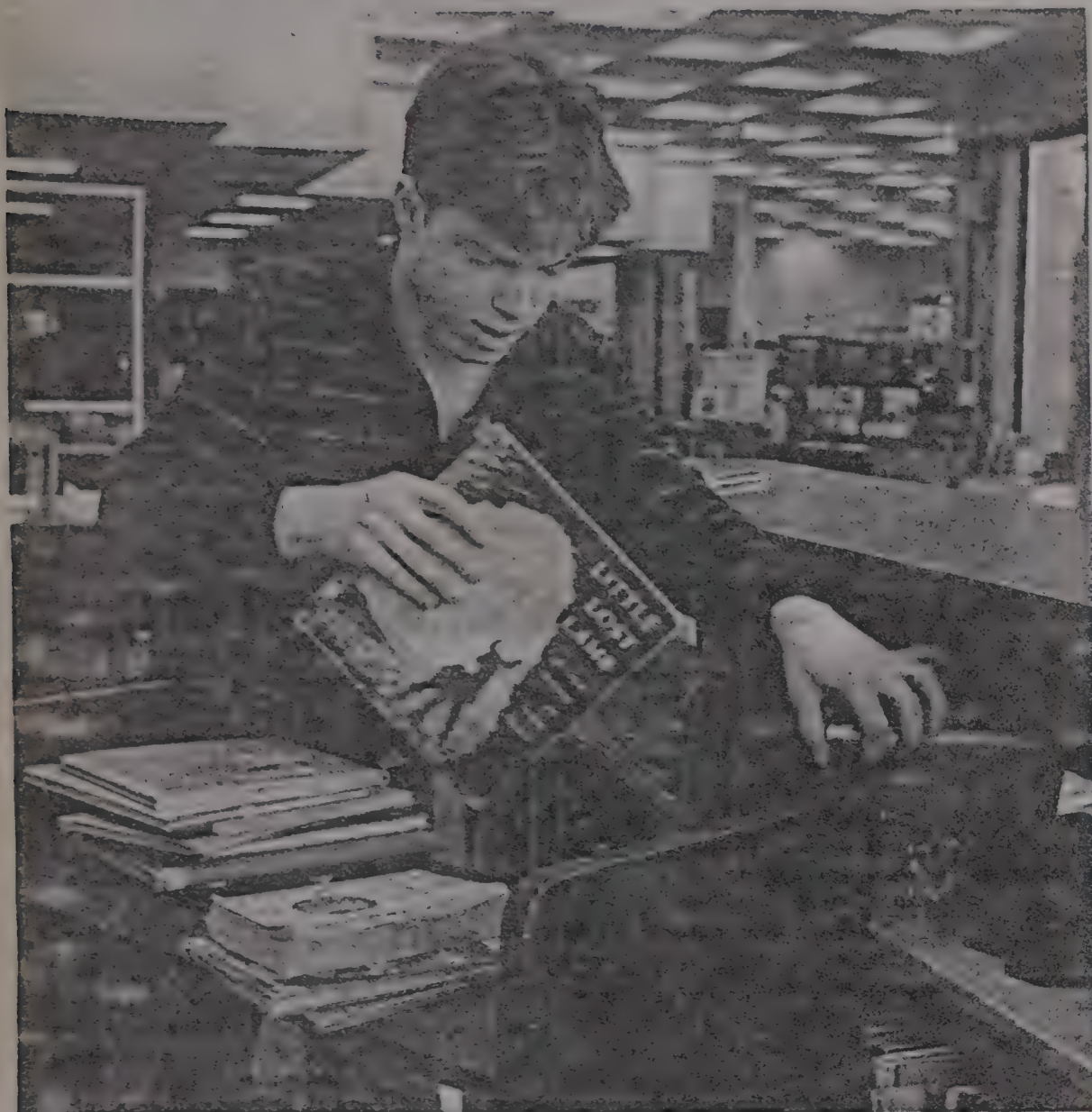
DALTON — Doris J. Lamica, the town's new librarian, assumed her duties at the Dalton Free Public Library this week. She succeeds Diane Kadanoff, who resigned in June to accept another position. Barbara Kubli of Dalton was been acting librarian.

A native of Northampton, Ms. Lamica was formerly librarian at the Lilly Library in Florence.

She is a 1969 graduate of Smith College and received a master's degree in library science from Simmons College in Boston in 1972.



# Determined dyslexic



Joel Librizz

Gregory Faulhaaber's love of books has helped him conquer dyslexia. Above, he shelves books in the Berkshire Athenaeum's children's library, where he volunteers.

*May 28, 1985*

## Owners of Black Swan Inn still seeking liquor license

LEE — Twelve months after they first applied, the owners of the Black Swan Inn are still trying to obtain a liquor license for their 40-room hostelry on Route 20 by Laurel Lake.

L. George and Sallie Kate Kish are now taking a two-pronged approach: They have appealed to Superior Court and they plan to reapply to the Selectmen next month.

So far, three decisions have gone against them.

They originally applied last May to the Selectmen, who act as the town's licensing board, for a permit to serve beer, wine and hard liquor in a small restaurant off the Black

Swan's lobby.

The Selectmen denied the application last June, then agreed to reconsider it in the fall. After a second public hearing, the board denied the application again in December. Next, the Kishes appealed to the state Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission, which held a hearing in March and ruled against them April 23.

Under Massachusetts law, the Kishes had 30 days in which to challenge the state commission's decision. Their attorney, Philip F. Heller of Lenox, filed an appeal May 20 in Berkshire County Superior Court, contending that the decision was "arbitrary and capricious"

and "unsupported by substantial evidence."

However, George Kish said last night the appeal was filed to meet the statutory deadline and may not be pursued. He said he plans to ask the Selectmen next month for another hearing and hopes the board will now grant the license, making the court case moot.

When the Selectmen voted on the application last December, they split votes. At that time, there were only two members of the board: William F. Tyer Jr., who opposed the license, and Charles J. Driscoll, who favored it. This month, William D. Bean was elected to the third seat on the board, which had been vacant since the death of William M. Murphy.

Although the Black Swan's application has been a hot issue in Lee over the past year, Bean has not yet taken a public stand on it. If he joins Driscoll in voting for the license, the battle will be over. If he sides with Tyer against the application, the Kishes will have the option of continuing their fight in the courts.



# overcomes handicap

By Linda Carman

Gregory Faulhaaber liked books so much that he wasn't going to let a diagnosis of dyslexia hold him back from reading them.

So when he was 15, he played, over and over again, a tape of his favorite science-fiction yarn and virtually memorized the book word for word.

That pretty much gave him the hang of it. In just a few months, Faulhaaber, now a 21-year-old student at New Marlboro Academy, part of the Kolburne School, brought his reading up from 4th- to 6th-grade level, and is now at 7th-grade level.

His projects have included work with tapes of the dictionary and of spelling words to hone his reading ability.

"Once I could do it, I found it easier to read," says Faulhaaber, who has a primary diagnosis of cerebral palsy and a secondary problem of dyslexia.

His favorite books tend to be on psychology and biography — particularly biographies of individuals who have prevailed over handicaps. But recently, with his beefed up reading skills, he has been tackling books about dyslexia itself. In an interview at the Berkshire Athenaeum, Faulhaaber showed a reporter a book by actress Susan Hampshire, who also is dyslexic. Other prominent dyslexics include Nelson Rockefeller and Gen. George Patton.

His curiosity primed by reading books titled "Smart but Feeling Dumb" and "A Solution to the Riddle of Dyslexia" by Dr. Harold Levinson, he journeyed to the author's Great Neck, L.I., office. And he is trying out some of Levinson's recommendations concerning vitamins and medication aimed at stabilizing inner ear balance, on the premise that the inner ear and dyslexia are related.

## Motivation the key

That premise is by no means accepted generally by those who work with dyslexics. But what they do accept is that motivation and determination are possibly the most important weapons for hurdling the barrier of dyslexia.

As dyslexia becomes increasingly recognized, children with the condition are less likely to be mislabeled retarded, slow or stupid. The most frequently used method of teaching dyslexic children — who see letters differently, frequently backward — to read is repeated drilling in phonics and phonetic techniques, according to David Gow, headmaster of the Gow School in South Wales, N.Y.

"There's lots of memorizing and much rote learning," said Gow in a telephone interview recently.

Laurel Fais, assistant director of the language training department at the Forman School in Litchfield, Conn., says that Faulhaaber's methodology is "not particularly common," but that with a lot of practice in hearing correctly and seeing the

word at the same time to make the association, it might be possible for someone to master reading, "If he is very, very motivated."

The tape-listening method sounds, Fais says, like something termed the neurological impress system, which is a technical way of describing what happens when a child follows along with an adult who is reading aloud — hearing the words said correctly while looking at the text.

## Library volunteer

Faulhaaber's fondness for books and reading has also landed him a volunteer post as one of the Berkshire Athenaeum's five adult and 26 junior friends who sort and shelve books in the library's children's department.

Since last fall when vocational testing at Berkshire Unlimited underscored his proclivity for books, Faulhaaber has commuted the 35 minutes by Berkshire Regional Transit Authority bus from New Marlboro to spend Mondays at the library.

His motivation is a marvel to Paul Kelly, a counselor with Berkshire Unlimited who assessed his

vocational aptitudes and was instrumental in arranging the library work.

"For Greg it's like a personal commitment," he says, "a fight that he's not going to lose. He has an insatiable appetite to read, and he's going to pursue it no matter what."

## Slow and steady

Kelly says that although it may take Faulhaaber five or even 10 times as long as the ordinary person to get through a page, his absorption and retention are remarkable.

"He'll just stay with it," says Kelly, who has become a friend of Faulhaaber's. He adds, "A lot of people take reading for granted."

Says Karen Klopfer, children's librarian, "He's so excited about what he's learning it's a real pleasure to have him around. Maybe the other kids are glad to be learning, too, but they don't express it as much. For him it's a whole new world."

Aside from his enjoyment from working with books, Faulhaaber finds the staff members warm and friendly, and adds, "That's a big part of anything you do."

## Taking up the slack in the stacks

The junior friends at the Berkshire Athenaeum have grown from a handful four years ago to their present 26, with a waiting list of about 20. Recruits are usually friends of "friends," and part of their application is an essay on why they want to volunteer.

The young volunteers have helped take up the slack left when budget cuts reduced the ranks of paid employees.

With 80,531 books circulated last year, the contribution of the volunteers is more than just valuable, it's essential, according to children's Librarian Karen Klopfer.

"I don't know what we'd do without them, we'd be so snowed under," says Klopfer. "If I had to put away all the books I'd never do the extras," like planning and scheduling children's programs, she says.

Corey Bishop, an 8th grader at Notre Dame, finds his library work "fun and interesting," and "something to do after school."

He finds he's reading more, especially titles that catch his eye while he's shelving them.

Paula Henry, a 7th grader at Crosby Middle School who got interested because her friend and classmate Colleen Gracyk was a volunteer, has found added material, and project ideas, for her favorite subject, science. And Anne Lapointe, a 7th grader at Notre Dame, says she always spent a lot of time reading, and now finds books that look interesting while she is putting them away.

Among the benefits of volunteering, the youngsters sometimes get to be first in line to read new books, and they may review those books and have their reviews, signed, in the card catalog, Klopfer says.

They got packages of M & Ms for Christmas, and only occasionally, says Klopfer, does she need to use a water pistol — a Kitty Cat ray gun stashed behind the desk — as a last resort to keep them in line.





## Lee organist a key woman at church

**St. George career  
began 53 years ago**

By Donna B. Mattoon

LEE — In 1932, when M. Venita Harvey returned home after a brief stay in California, the pastor at St. George's Episcopal Church asked her to play the organ for Sunday service.

A lot of pastors have come and gone since then. But 53 years later, in what must be a record for the county, Harvey is still donning her choir robe every Sunday morning to play the traditional Episcopal hymns she knows so well for the congregation at St. George's.

'My life'

"Music has been my life," she says, explaining her devotion to the organ and her weekly service to the church that has spanned nearly five and a half decades.

On Palm Sunday — Harvey's 90th birthday — the congregation reciprocated by throwing her a surprise birthday party. While the bell choir played the tune, the congregation sang "Happy Birthday" and presented the organist with a gift. At the end of the service, everyone trooped to the parish hall for a first-class celebration and a piece of birthday cake.

Small and agile, Harvey hardly looks her age. But judging by the photo she carries around of the party, she was clearly delighted by the event marking the milestone in her life.

Did Grange dances

These days, Harvey plays strictly for the church. But in years gone by, she and her band were regulars at local dances and balls sponsored by the former Lee Grange.

With her husband on the violin, her sister on the saxophone, a drummer plus a few more brass pieces, Harvey and the band played all the popular tunes of the day on Friday and Saturday nights. But Sundays were always reserved for the organ at church, she said.

Harvey started taking lessons when she was 8, studying with the



Mark Mitchell

**GOING STRONG** at age 90, M. Venita Harvey of Lee presides over the organ at St. George's Episcopal Church.

organist at St. Mary's Church, with a music professor in Stockbridge and also with the organist at the First Church of Christ Congregational in Pittsfield.

Played in Lenox

In 1919, Harvey began playing the organ at the Church-on-the-Hill in Lenox, leaving in 1920 to get married. She later moved to California for four years.

"But I wasn't back very long before I started playing at St. George's," she said, "and I've been there ever since."

Harvey suspects she may have acquired her love of music naturally, since her mother was musically inclined and could play by ear.

Harvey and her husband, Basil, who died recently, built their house on Greylock Street. An avid gardener, Harvey normally puts in three gardens each summer, but she decided to cut down to two this year.

Besides a granddaughter in Arizona, Harvey said, she is devoted to her dog, Yo-Yo, a mixed breed who is now her constant companion.

## Lee ZBA denies variance for Laurel St. apartments

LEE — The Zoning Board of Appeals voted 4-1 last night to deny permission for Xebec Inc. of Tampa, Fla., to build 25 apartments on Laurel Street (Route 20) across from the state police barracks.

Xebec had requested a variance from the town's zoning bylaws, which allow no more than four housing units on a single lot. But to obtain a variance, the firm had to show that because of the soil conditions, shape or topography of the Laurel Street property, "literal enforcement" of the bylaw would cause a "substantial hardship."

Members of the ZBA said they did not believe the company proved it

faced a hardship. Xebec has an option to buy the 6.5 acre parcel and a two-story white house from John and Nicole Duvall. The company had planned to raze the house and build four separate buildings containing a total of seven one-bedroom apartments and 18 two-bedroom units.

The Planning Board voted last month to recommend against the variance. In last night's vote, Chairman Daniel Sullivan was the sole ZBA member to favor the application. William Larmon, Roberta E. Pollard, Robert Macintosh and Peter Biasin all voted against it.

The ZBA held an informational meeting on the project April 30 and a formal public hearing May 16. At both of those sessions, neighbors objected to Xebec's plans, contending that the project would worsen the area's drainage problems and strain the town's water and sewer systems. The Department of Public Works Board, however, said the project's impact on water supply and sewer capacity would be minor.

Xebec previously has proposed projects in North Adams and Dalton.

15.

8—The Berkshire Eagle, Saturday, Aug. 30, 1986

## Obituaries and Funerals

DeCrescenzo, Joseph D.



Shaun O. Kelly

### Shaun O. Kelly, funeral director

LEE — Shaun O. Kelly, 38, of 7 Paul Drive, a funeral director, died at home yesterday evening after a long illness.

He was born in Pittsfield Dec. 29, 1947, a son of Frank J. and Eileen Fitzgerald Kelly. He was a graduate of the Lee High School Class of 1966, and participated in three sports: baseball, basketball and football. He was a fullback on the intercounty championship football team in 1965. In his senior year, he was a Student Government Day representative in Boston.

Mr. Kelly was a Vietnam-era Navy veteran, and graduated from the New England Institute of Embalming and Funeral Directing in 1969. He was associated in the operation of the Kelly Funeral Home in Lee with his father and his cousin, John J. Kelly. He was a member of the Massachusetts Funeral Director's Association.

He was a member of Lee Chamber of Commerce and one of the originators of the Lee Sale-bration Days. He was also a member of the Berkshire Hills Council 314 of the Knights of Columbus, the Lee Sportsman's Club, the Greenock Country Club, and of the committees for both the Fran Winters and Michael Curley Memorial Scoreboards at Lee High School. He also took an active part in promoting Little League.

He was a communicant of St. Mary's Church.

Besides his parents, he leaves his wife, the former Deborah Flynn, with whom he would have observed their 15th wedding anniversary Oct. 30; two sons, S. Patrick and Jonathan R. Kelly; two brothers, William M. Kelly of Yorktown Heights, N.Y., and Kevin P. Kelly of New York City; four sisters, Ms. Anne A. Kelly of Lee, Mrs. Sheila Strack of Holcomb, N.Y., Mrs. Zita Kinne of Suffield, Conn., and Mrs. Marcia Gomula of Pittsfield.

The funeral will be held Monday at 10:15 from the Kelly Funeral Home with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at St. Mary's Church at 11. Calling hours at the funeral home will be today from 7 to 9 p.m. and tomorrow from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery.

If they wish, friends may make donations to Lee Little League Inc., in care of the Kelly Funeral Home.



# Ottavio B. Giarolo dies at 57; fire chief in Lee for 16 years

LEE — Fire Chief Ottavio B. Giarolo, 57, of 5 Birch St. died yesterday at Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield after a long illness.

Born in Lee on July 3, 1927, he was the son of Mary Biasin Giarolo and the late F. Mario Giarolo. He was educated in local schools, graduating from Lee High School in 1947. While in high school, he was an outstanding football, baseball and basketball player.

Mr. Giarolo was named an all-Berkshire football player in 1944 and 1945, and he played on the Pittsfield Electric's, a semipro baseball team in the Cleveland Indians' organization. He also played on the 1949 Lee Sons of Italy team that advanced to the finals of the Coca-Cola semipro national baseball championships in Wichita, Kan.

During World War II, he served in the Marine Corps. After the war, he worked as a carpenter for contractor Victor Pellizzaro, Western Massachusetts Contractors Inc. and Peter Francese Inc. Since 1978, he had been a foreman for I & M Contractors of Lee.



Ottavio B. Giarolo

Mr. Giarolo joined the Fire Department more than 30 years ago and had served as its chief since 1968. He was a past president of the

Berkshire County Fire Chiefs Association.

He was a communicant of St. Mary's Church and a member of the Lee chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Lee Sportsmen's Club and Carpenters' Union Local 260.

He and his wife, the former Vera M. Buffoni, celebrated their 33rd wedding anniversary in May. Besides his wife and mother, he leaves in Lee two sons, Robert A. and Paul M. Giarolo; a brother, John B. Giarolo; two sisters, Mrs. J. Victor Salice and Mrs. John Winters, and a grandson.

The funeral will be Wednesday at 9:15 a.m. from the Kelly Funeral Home, with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at 10 at St. Mary's Church. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Calling hours are tonight from 7 to 9 and tomorrow from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 at the funeral home. Delegations from area fire departments will meet there tomorrow at 7 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Mr. Giarolo's name to St. Mary's School or the Lee Visiting Nurse Association.

Continued on Page 10

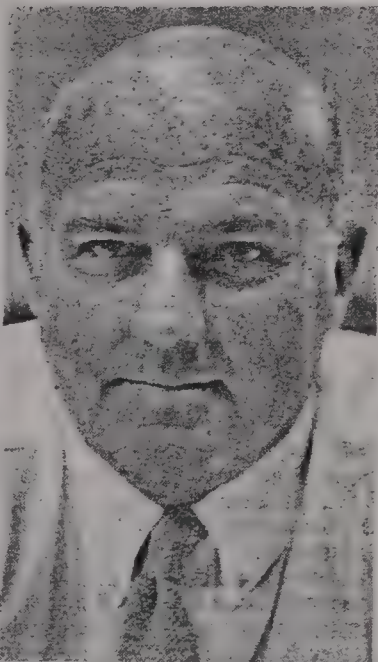
## Name in the News

### Lee's new superintendent

LEE

Moving into a community and taking immediate charge of its public schools seems like a daunting task. But can anything daunt a teacher who has led his students into the Sahara, taken them through tropical forests and climbed with them into the heart of an African volcano?

It's clear that Clarence C. Truesdell — an astrophysicist who has taken high school students on expeditions to some of the earth's most exotic spots, who holds a doctorate in education from Harvard and who has more than 30 years of experience as a teacher and school administrator — is not daunted by the task he assumed this month when he became superintendent of the Lee, Otis and Tyringham public schools.



Alan Cooperman  
Clarence C. Truesdell  
Translating a dream

Harvard College Observatory in Cambridge. That's when the globe-trotting began.

For three years, from 1959 to 1961, Truesdell ran a satellite tracking station in Spain. He also chased solar eclipses, journeying to distant lands, particularly Africa, to observe the phenomenon from the best possible positions.

On his return to Cambridge, he took charge of the Smithsonian Observatory's photo reduction section, calculating the location of satellites from precise measurements of film taken in 1,000-foot-long rolls by cameras with giant (20-inch diameter) lenses. At the same time, he studied psychology and administration at Harvard's graduate school of education, earning a master's degree in

1962 and doctorate in 1968.

Since then, he has held a variety of administrative posts, including school psychologist and principal of Burr Elementary School in Newton; superintendent of the Jacksonville public schools in Southern Vermont; associate professor of education at Stetson University in Florida, and since 1980, director of Marconi School, a public school for special-needs students on Cape Cod.

In the early 1970s, Truesdell founded and was president of a non-profit organization called Educational Expeditions International, which selected gifted teenagers from across the country and took them on scientific expeditions throughout the world. With federal grants and funding from the Explorer's Club in New York, he and other scientists led students to observe eclipses from the Sahara, study volcanoes in Zaire and learn about the teeming wildlife of the Galapagos Islands.

At the Marconi school, he worked with a far different type of student — those with severe learning disabilities. Many of them, he said, had average or above average scores on intelligence tests but weren't doing well in school.

Married at age 19, Truesdell was divorced in 1979. He has two grown children, a son and a daughter, both of whom reside in the Amherst area. Besides photography and astronomy, he likes camping, bicycling and canoeing.

Asked why he came to Lee, he said he had learned "some things" at Marconi that he wanted to try to "translate into a regular school." In particular, he said, he would like to work on "preventative" programs to stop learning problems from developing.

"My dream," Truesdell said, "is to have a school where every child learns and there is no failure."

But it's also clear, from a 90-minute interview Thursday in his office at Lee's Central School, that he's not overconfidently planning a raft of changes.

"I would like to spend some time seeing what's here," he said. "It seems to me this is a pretty sophisticated little school system. I approach it with a great deal of humility. . . I'm not sure I can add anything at all."

Truesdell, 56, replaces Vahan J. Khachadorian, who is now superintendent in Millis. Truesdell was born in Columbus, Ohio, where he had "the ideal childhood." Does that mean a loving family, plenty of friends, nice presents on Christmas? Yes, but also something more.

"It was just what kids dream of," he said. "My parents owned a candy factory."

Truesdell Candy Co., which made peanut clusters, chocolate-covered orange slices and the like, was run by his father, a mechanical engineer. His mother was an elementary school teacher and painter.

After earning a degree in physics from Ohio State University in 1951, he began his teaching career as a science instructor in the Columbus public schools. He also took graduate courses in astronomy and, in 1958, became a researcher at the Smithsonian Institution's Astrophysical Observatory, which is at the

#### BINGO

St. Charles Church  
50-100 Games 2 W.T.A.  
Mon. Night 6:40 PM  
89 Briggs Ave.  
Door Prizes  
Public Welcome

#### BINGO

St. Mark's Parish  
Center, Columbus  
Ave. Ext. Saturday  
Night 6:45 p.m. All \$50  
and \$100 games.  
2 W.T.A. plus  
\$400 Super Social

Lee Ling's Oriental  
Restaurant Now serving  
Lunch Mon-Sat.  
11:30 am-2:30 pm. Also  
take out orders. Rte. 102  
Pleasant St. Lee Mass.  
243-2586, 243-9741  
637-3074

## erals

### Services conducted for Shaun O. Kelly

A Liturgy of Christian Burial for Shaun O. Kelly of Lee was celebrated Monday at St. Mary's Church by the Rev. J. Marcus Murtaugh, retired pastor of St. Thomas-a-Becket Church, South Barre, and cousin of the deceased; the Rev. John J. Bonzagni, associate pastor of St. Mary's Church, Lee; the Rev. Thomas J. O'Connor, retired pastor of St. Ann's Church, Lenox; the Rev. Luke T. Fennessey, pastor of St. Joseph's Church, Stockbridge; the Rev. Charles J. Sullivan, pastor of St. Ann's Church, Lenox; the Rev. J. Joseph Quigley, director of the Newman Center at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, cousin of the deceased, and the Rev. James M. Graham, associate pastor of St. Patrick's Church, South Hadley.

Also in attendance were the Rev. Walter S. Ryan, retired pastor of First Congregational Church, Lee, and the Rev. Denis B. Ford, rector of St. George's Episcopal Church, Lee.

Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Honorary bearers were Ivan LaChance, Francis J. Drake, Charles H. Rohlf Jr., Nathan G. Horwitt, Clifford W. Clark, Francis C. Darey, Anthony P. Bartoni and Charles M. Rawson.

Active bearers were Dennis M. O'Brien, Timothy C. Doherty, Edward R. Morrison, Peter R. Viale, Ronald J. Driscoll, David J. Kelly, David H. Brighenti and John H. Blaisdell.

Readings were given by Father Ford; Timothy C. Doherty; Daniel Flynn, brother-in-law of the deceased, and William M. Kelly, brother of the deceased.

An honor guard consisted of representatives of the Massachusetts Funeral Directors Association, 6th grade class at St. Mary's School, Lee Little League, Lee Chamber of Commerce and Lee High class of 1966.

In attendance were Lee town officials, county officials, state Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins, T.P.N. Health Care Services of Western Massachusetts personnel, and representatives of the Greenock Country Club in Lee, Berkshire Hills Council 314 Knights of Columbus and faculty and student body of St. Joseph's High School in Pittsfield.





50th REUNION of Lee High School class of 1935 attracted 29 class members. From left, in first row, are: Margaret McGinty Tymczuk, Hazel Pollard Hart, Betty L. Dennis, James M. Burt, Angelo DiGrigoli, Frances Termini Manzi, Minne Dobs Jacobs, Mary Cadenelli Zanella, Olga Gregoski Koloski. Second row: Henry J. Salice, Elizabeth Diamond Ingram,

Mark Mitchell  
Doris Abele Clark, Elizabeth Farina Navin, Joseph E. Tyer, Geno Passetto. Third row: Peter C. Colombari, James Schuck, W. Kenneth Talbot, Marion Bissell Borney, Wilson A. Wright, Leo J. Esoldi, Charles E. Slater. Reunion took place Saturday night at the Greenock Country Club in Lee.

## Water tower wins approval in Lee

By William J. Carey

LEE — Town meeting representatives last night gave the town permission to construct a water tower off Fairview Street, following 35 minutes of sometimes emotional debate and a motion to reconsider the method of voting.

Representatives approved the controversial water tower first in a voice vote and again, 31-10, when they were asked to stand and be counted.

The vote allows the town to take by eminent domain a half-acre of woodland off Fairview Street for the tower and to appropriate \$50,000 to compensate property owner Russell Burt and acquire easements for the pipes. The same proposal was narrowly defeated by the annual town meeting in May.

A two-thirds vote is needed to approve any land-taking.

The Department of Public Works has recommended the tower, funded through a \$1 million state grant, to increase the amount of water available for fighting fires along Route 102 in South Lee. Businesses in the industrial zone now pay high fire insurance premiums because of the low volume of water available. The tower is also expected to improve water pressure in homes along Fairview Street.

About 25 residents took part in a DPW bus tour of the proposed construction site last week.

"We need to correct this."

After 35 minutes, District 4 member Stephen Cozzaglio won approval to vote on the water tower, shutting off the debate. Selectman William D. Bean failed in an attempt to have the issue decided by a secret ballot rather than a standing vote. "I wanted people to vote from their conscience," he said after the meeting. "I know some people might feel intimidated voting for it with relatives and friends in the audience."

Town Moderator Joseph M. Toole ruled the water tower article passed by a majority voice vote, but accepted a motion by District 6 representative Martin H. Deely to reconsider the voting method.

Thirty-one representatives voted in favor of the water tower when asked to stand; 10 voted against. Twenty-eight votes were needed for a two-thirds majority. There were 45 representatives present out of 60 total town meeting members.

DPW Superintendent J. Peter Scolforo said construction may begin on the water tower late this fall after the design and bidding process is completed. The tower will rise 75 feet, with a 60-foot diameter. It will hold 1.5 million gallons of water. Scolforo said the path of pipes will follow existing road to Fairview Street. He said the DPW would blacktop only the entrance.

### Industrial use

Five people spoke against the tower last night. They argued that it amounts to an industrial use in a residential area, that it could be constructed elsewhere with less controversy, and that ample time remains to secure state funding. Most said they were not against supporting industry in the town.

"It seems there's still some question as to the thoroughness, as to how many alternatives we've looked at," said Kevin Lang, who owns a lot off Fairview Street. "I think we can explore other areas," he said, "where everyone can be happy and the town can expand its business."

Lang said he had been told that state funding for the project could be extended, leaving "plenty of time" to develop another plan.

"What we're trying to do here is prevent a mistake from being made," said Steven Consolati of Fairview Street. "If it's passed, we're the people that are going to be affected."

District 6 representative Francis D. Foley spoke in favor of the water tower. "Route 102 is suffering from the insurance charges because they don't have fire protection," he said.



## Marguerite Tristany, nursing director, dies

LEE — Miss Marguerite M. Tristany, 63, director of nursing at Fairview Hospital in Great Barrington, died at Berkshire Medical Center yesterday after a long illness. She was a resident of 232 Main St.

Born in Lee May 6, 1922, daughter of the late Michael and Filomena Gennamore Tristany, she graduated from St. Mary's School in 1935 and from Lee High School in 1939. In 1943, she graduated from the former St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing in Pittsfield, and, in 1946, became head nurse at St. Luke's. She was a faculty member of the nursing school for 27 years.

Miss Tristany recently received the Nurse of the Year award from her alma mater. She served as director of nursing at St. Luke's School of Nursing at Berkshire Medical Center. Between 1974 and 1978, she was coordinator of hospital education services at BMC. In 1978, she became director of nursing at Fairview Hospital. She holds a bachelor of science degree in nursing education from Boston University and a master of science degree from North Adams State College.

A communicant of St. Mary's Church, she was a member and past president of St. Mary-St. Martha Sodality. She was also a eucharistic minister at the church, and has

taught Christian Doctrine classes.

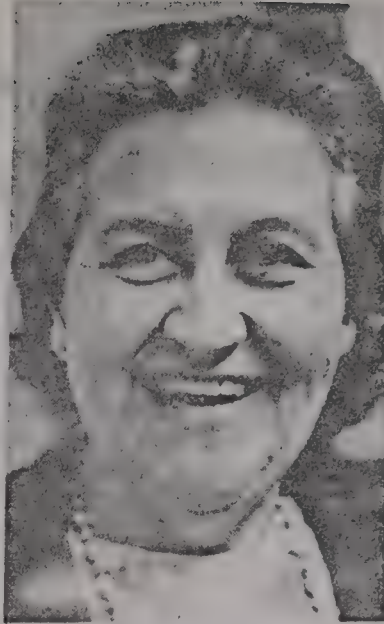
Miss Tristany was a member of St. Luke's Nursing Alumni, and was that group's former president. She was an affiliated member of the New England Council of Catholic Nurses, the Massachusetts Society for Nursing Service Administrators, Western Mass. Directors of Nursing and the New England Organization for Nursing. She was also on the advisory committees of the Southern Berkshire Educational Collaborative, the Licensed Practical Nurse Program at Berkshire Community College and the Southern Berkshire Visiting Nurse Association.

She leaves a brother, Mario J. Tristany Sr. of Lee and two sisters, Miss Anna J. Tristany of Lee and Mrs. Mary T. Mauriello of Natick.

The funeral will be Thursday at 9:15 from Kelly Funeral Home, with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at 10 at St. Mary's Church. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Calling hours at the funeral home will be tomorrow from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9.

Memorial donations may be made in Miss Tristany's name to St. Mary's Church building fund through the funeral home, or to Fairview Hospital in care of Guy Barg, who will administer donations.



Marguerite M. Tristany

*She was also on the  
Committee and a member of the  
This was committed to the  
obituary*

18.



6/20/86 Eagle  
**ROARING '20s** returned to Lee for a few hours yesterday afternoon when two local businessmen dressed up to promote a Chamber of Commerce costume ball. Auctioneer Louis E. Caropreso, dressed as a newsboy, and innkeeper Alfred H. Lavigne, wearing a gangster suit, borrowed their biggest prop, a 1934 La Salle, from L. George Kish, owner of the Black Swan Inn. The ball is June 27 at 7:30 p.m. at Cranwell.

Alan Cooperman

## Lee appoints new director for youth program

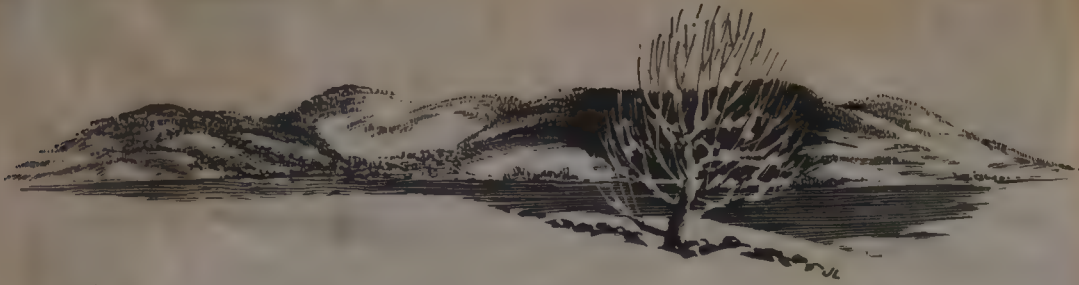
LEE — The Selectmen approved on Monday the appointment of David Canterbury of Chester as the town's new youth director. He will replace Janet E. Pompi, who resigned the \$15,700-a-year post to become a teacher.

Carol E. LePrevost, chairman of the Youth Commission, said 19 people applied for the job and seven were interviewed. The commission believed that Canterbury, a program director at the Springfield Boys' Club, "is more than qualified," she said. He will start Nov. 22.

A graduate of Westfield High School and the University of Massachusetts, Canterbury, 38, has been a teacher and coach at Cheshire Academy, Westfield schools and Gateway Regional High School. He is married and has two children.



## Our Berkshires



### Wellington Smith: pioneer papermaker

By Gerard Chapman

#### STOCKBRIDGE

THE LARGE Victorian house in Lee, on the northwest corner of Main and Park streets, occupied by the Kelly Funeral Home, was once known as Elmcroft, the residence of Wellington Smith, one of the town's most prominent citizens.

"No event in many years has so stirred the town of Lee as the tragic death of Wellington Smith." So began the front-page article in the issue of *The Berkshire Gleaner* dated May 4, 1910. For a man of the stature of Mr. Smith in both his home town and the world of paper manufacture, his death on April 26 was incongruous. The cause was "the collapse of a combination folding bed and wardrobe in Mrs. Ralph's boarding house" in New York City, where he had gone on business.

The *Gleaner* continued: "Mr. Smith, through his various offices . . . and wide association with the leaders of the paper industry, did more to make the town of Lee known than any other man."

\* \* \* \*

Wellington Smith was born in Lee on Dec. 15, 1841 and was educated locally, with some exposure to the teaching of Alexander Hyde's high school. His business career began in West Stockbridge, where he ran a store; he later conducted a feed business in Lee, an antecedent of the present Dresser-Hull Co. But he found his life's work in paper manufacture.

His father, in association with Cyrus W. Field of Stockbridge had operated a paper mill in Russell, and in 1864 Wellington Smith went into partnership with his uncle, Eliza Smith, and DeWitt S. Smith, and two years later the Smith Paper Co. was organized. (In 1950 the company became a unit of Peter J. Schweitzer Inc., and in 1957 it became the Schweitzer Division of Kimberly-Clark Corp.)

Nominally the treasurer of the company, Wellington Smith was in actuality the guiding spirit behind the firm's success. He was an innovator, and in 1867 he agreed to test the utility of ground wood pulp in the manufacture of paper; it was first produced by Curtisville (Interlaken) in Stockbridge, and proved to be ideal in the manufacture of newsprint, both cheaper than rags and more absorbent of ink in the high-speed printing of newspapers.

From *Paper Dyes*, just a century later, comes this perhaps apocryphal story:

"Some years after the introduc-



Wellington Smith

tion of wood-pulp, Wellington Smith became locally famous for his exploit of turning a tree into a newspaper in one day. At 4 a.m. a tree was felled and ground to pulp in Interlaken, and delivered to Lee where it was processed into paper. The paper was driven at top speed to Pittsfield where an edition of *The Berkshire Eagle* was printed on it. The same afternoon, the tree was back in Lee as pages of a newspaper."

The mills at Lee made a thousand dollars' worth of newsprint a day, leading the *Gleaner* to observe that "the business was eminently successful and so recognized throughout the paper trade of the country."

\* \* \* \*

Wellington Smith was the first president of the American Paper and Pulp Association and president of the Tissue Paper Makers Association. He was for 30 years a director of Berkshire Life Insurance Co., and in 1882 was president of the Berkshire Agricultural Society. He also held interests in other manufacturing enterprises.

He toured Europe in 1874 and in 1880 was a delegate to the convention of the Republican Party that nominated James A. Garfield for the presidency. That year, too, he was a councilor to Gov. Benjamin F. Butler of Massachusetts. He was a Mason and a member of the Congregational Church, and actively promoted new quarters for the Lee Library Association.

In 1908 *The Gleaner* noted that "Mr. Smith is a great lover of

horses and for many years had the fastest road team in Berkshire. His memorable ride with 'Ben' Butler from Pittsfield to Lee in 37 minutes is often referred to. The latter said that the telegraph poles and fence posts on some of the Lenox estates looked like a finetooth comb as they rushed by." Among the several horses in this stable was Alcantara, noted in the area as a consistent winner at the tracks.

Mr. Smith was married twice, first to Mary Clark Shannon, who died in 1877, and afterward to Anna Maria Bullard, who survived him. There are several descendants.

\* \* \* \*

In the Jan. 1, 1908, issue of *The Valley Gleaner* (a variant name of the weekly paper), on the 45th anniversary of Smith's entry into the paper business, there appeared this evaluation of his career:

"The great secret of Wellington Smith's success in business and his popularity with businessmen is summed in one short sentence — regard for detail and consideration of others. He has a memory as to detail that is simply beyond comparison. Let some paper dealer or manufacturer ask him in an offhand way . . . what particular grade of paper is being made on any one of the machines of the Smith Paper Co., in any of the mills at that particular moment, and he will answer instantly with all the details in regard to stock used, when the run will be finished, barring breakdown, when and to whom it is to be shipped, or anything else that concerns it. This is remarkable when it is known that the company manufactures upward of 100 grades and colors of paper, and five big mills are running and changing orders continually.

"This man can tell you at once the positive power and capacity of every water-wheel under the head available at each mill and the direction that each turns when in motion. He can describe each steam engine and boiler, tell when installed, present condition and possible durability, and this same attention and memory as to detail applies to every piece of machinery in the five plants."

Such personal attention and devotion to his own business is in refreshing contrast to the absentee ownership that afflicts so many enterprises today, and which too often results in the closure of a plant without regard for the devastating effects it has on a community.



# Fred, Cat at Library, Becomes Town Issue

by Abby Pollender

WOODBURY — Overhearing the conversations on the street one might find townspeople discussing such local issues as the proposed changes in the charter or the future of the landfill, but more likely the talk on the street these days focuses on another town issue, the fate of Fred, the library cat.

Fred, a stray female cat who has lived in the Woodbury Public Library for more than nine years, became the focal point of attention in late October when Phyllis Delaney wrote a letter to the editor of Voices stating that, because of her allergies and fear of cats, she could not use the library as long as Fred remained there.

Since then, Fred has become a cause. "Fred has a very strong following," Maureen Well, director of the Library Board of Trustees says. And that has become obvious. Most recently Stephanie Courtney, a sixth grader and library patron, began circulating a "Save Fred" petition.

Stephanie says she started the petition because "I like Fred and a lot of others like Fred and I'd be upset if they kicked Fred out."

Once she has collected the 250 signatures she hopes to get, Stephanie plans to turn the petition in to John Yarbrough, the town's legal counsel.

"Fred brings a certain warmth to the library," Mrs. Well says. "She makes a lot of people smile. She's been called charismatic."

## The Other Side

For Mrs. Delaney, however, Fred provides no warmth. Stating in her October 30 letter to Voices that she is "unable to breathe in the presence of a cat," she explains "the cat does not pay taxes and is allowed to live at the library that I pay taxes for and cannot use."

The Library Board of Trustees suggested that Mrs. Delaney call ahead to let the library staff know when she will be in and they will make sure Fred is temporarily removed, as they do for other patrons who make the request.

"Why should I make an appointment to use the library," Mrs. Delaney asked in her letter. Removing Fred tem-

porarily would not solve the problem, she added. The cat hairs and scent would remain, she explained, "and make me physically ill."

Mrs. Delaney stated further that, in accordance with a state statute, animals are not allowed in public buildings. She quoted the statute, which read "It is the first selectman's duty to regulate and prohibit the going at large of dogs and other animals in the street and public places of the municipality."

Not every one considers Fred "going at large" in the library. "She's really a part of the library," Jill Smith, the library director, explains.

## 'No Regulation'

After checking with the state Library Board and the Department of Health, Mrs. Well says she has found no regulation that would prohibit Fred's residency in the library.

"In Connecticut there are libraries that have living creatures in their children's rooms," Mrs. Well states. Public schools often house animals, she adds.

First Selectman Elizabeth Adams also has asked Mr. Yarbrough to research the matter.

To accommodate Mrs. Delaney, the library trustees offered to mail books to her and explained that her library card permits her to use any other library in the state as well.

"We offered creative solutions to her," Mrs. Well says. Mrs. Delaney, however, did not find the alternatives satisfactory. The board recently offered to meet with Mrs. Delaney, who has corresponded primarily with Mrs. Adams, voicing her complaints. Mrs. Delaney declined to meet with the board. "She felt a meeting would not be productive," Mrs. Smith explained.

An earlier meeting had been arranged for Mrs. Delaney to meet with members of the Board of Trustees and Mrs. Adams. However, due to some confusion as to whether the meeting was still scheduled, Mrs. Delaney did not attend, according to Mrs. Well.

## Opposition

If Mrs. Delaney hopes to have Fred removed from the library,

# Voices Section Two

January 15, 1986

Woodbury near Waterbury

Page 37



Stephanie Courtney, spending some time with Fred the cat who lives in the Woodbury Public Library, holds a petition she began circulating last week to "Save Fred." One resident has questioned the town's policy allowing Fred to live in the library building. (Pollender photo)

she faces strong opposition from many Fred supporters, including the 84 people who had signed Stephanie's petition as of January 9.

The first 40 who signed, Stephanie explains, "were kids from school. They said 'I'd sign it a million times' and 'they better not kick Fred out of the library.'"

She says the children support Fred, who spends most of her

time in the children's room at the library, because "she makes kids happy and she gives parents something to laugh at too. When you're gloomy she makes you laugh by batting at your pencil when you write."

Stephanie has enjoyed Fred's company since the first day she met Fred two years ago. "The day I walked in the door (of the children's room) I went crazy when I saw Fred. Cats are my

favorite animal. And we've been friends ever since," she explains.

## Companionship

It is that companionship that has endeared Fred to many of the young patrons at the library. "The kids love coming in and talking to Fred," Ann Bumstead, the children's librarian commented. Fred fits in easily with the casual at-

(Please turn to page 40)

## Fred the Cat

(Continued from page 37)

mosphere of the library, she added.

Most of Fred's time is spent sleeping in her box on the desk in the children's room or seeking out sunny spots on the windowsill. "The rest of the time she's visiting with people or helping kids with their homework," Miss Bumstead said.

Downstairs in the adult section of the library, Fred also often visits with patrons, curling up in their laps as they read magazines. Older persons often seek out Fred's company, Miss Bumstead explained. After returning from a winter in Florida, one of the first things they do is drop in to see how Fred made it through.

According to Mary Jane Anderson of Woodbury, Fred also may provide a therapeutic service for older patrons. Mrs. Anderson, who brings her cat and two dogs to visit residents in local nursing homes, explains that for some older people, simply petting a cat may have a calming effect, which helps the person to relax.

Studies indicate, she says, that this effect can lower the person's blood pressure.

"We've tried to make the library a welcoming place, and informal, to make people feel at home," Mrs. Smith explains. And Fred adds to that, she says.

Fred appears to be quite at home in the library as well. As Stephanie says, "Fred has lived here nine years. She's used to the people here. She'd be scared going to a new home."



Mar 17, 1985



ALL ABOARD a Boston & Albany railroad car at Chatham, N.Y., in the 1880s would have observed this crush of passen-

gers. Old photograph is one of many from the Berkshire Scenic Railway's new museum in Lee.

## Scenic Railway is steaming along with ambitious plans for 3rd season

By Alan Cooperman

LEE — Although the Berkshire Scenic Railway doesn't operate its trains in winter, it is still steaming along.

The all-volunteer, non-profit railroad is using the off-season to establish a permanent depot, create a museum, buy several cabooses, renovate another coach, acquire a third locomotive and plan for rapid growth.

On May 24, it will begin its third season of running antique passenger trains along the Boston & Maine tracks between Lee and Great Barrington.

Plans for the future include the creation, in 1987 or 1988, of a North Berkshire division that would operate trains between Adams and North Adams, promoting tourism in conjunction with Western Gateway Heritage State Park.

From its start two years ago on a shoestring budget with a locomotive

that frequently broke down, the scenic railway has evolved into a well-oiled operation with solid — although certainly not lavish — finances.

It now owns five Erie Lackawanna passenger coaches, four fully restored and one under renovation. It has two reliable locomotives and is negotiating to buy a third.

### Running in black

Perhaps most impressive, the budget has tripled from about \$20,000 in 1984 to \$60,000 this year, and the railway is running in the black, not through grants or donations, but because of booming ticket sales. According to its treasurer, Edward H. Wichmann Sr. of Lenox, the railway earned 94 percent of its income last year from tickets, 2 percent from souvenir sales and less than 1 percent from donations.

In its first summer of operation, the railroad had 5,500 passengers. Last year, it had 8,600. This year, it

is projecting 12,500.

Of course, the railway might not be in the black if it had to pay salaries. No one on its staff — not one conductor, brakeman, trainman or mechanic — is paid. They range from teenagers to retirees, and they come from as far away as the state of Florida just to work on, ride on and be around the antique trains.

"Sometimes I think we're all crazy," says John W. Herbert of Theresa Terrace, the railway's president and founder. "We just love to 'play train.'"

In its first two years, the scenic railway used Sullivan Station restaurant on Railroad Street as an informal headquarters. But this spring, it plans to open its own depot in a rented warehouse on Canal Street, directly across the tracks from the restaurant.

### Museum planned

Herbert said the depot will house not only a ticket office and gift shop, but also a museum devoted to the history of railroads and trolleys in Berkshire County.

John L. Trowill of Pittsfield will be the first curator of the museum, which will include railroad equipment, timetables, photographs, slide shows and video displays.

Herbert said visitors will be able to buy a ticket, walk through the museum and enter the Hoosac Tunnel Museum Coach, an antique railroad car leased to the scenic railway for \$1 a year by the Hoosac Tunnel Museum Society. He said the coach will be dedicated solely to the history of the tunnel and other North Berkshire tourist attractions.

After leaving the museum coach, he said, tourists will enter a re-

stored caboose, one of six that the scenic railway bought this winter from Conrail. From the caboose they will cross the tracks and board the train for the trip to Great Barrington.

All six cabooses have cupolas, similar to raised observation decks, with seats for four passengers. Herbert said one will be restored and added to the train, while another may be made into a VIP car and the rest will be parked on sidings, where they may be used as temporary sleeping quarters for volunteers who travel long distances to work on the trains.

Volunteers willing to help paint, maintain and restore coaches or to serve as conductors, trainmen, concession workers and ticket salesmen are always welcome, Herbert added.



B6—The Berkshire Eagle, Saturday, September 20, 1986



**DIESEL DAN'S PROPRIETORS** from left, Joseph Cerquitella, Robert Gangell and George Massery, pose in front of the refurbished "Barn" at Route 102 truckstop. The former

warehouse features a restaurant, retail store, game room, sauna and shower facilities for truckers and other visitors. The firm bought the building for \$135,000.

William J. Carey

## Diesel Dan's: 'Home away from home'

By William J. Carey

**LEE** — Diesel Dan's truck stop has expanded rapidly since 1982, but its square-deal philosophy remains the same, according to company officials.

With the acquisition of the former Poly-Therm warehouse, they said the philosophy has been expanded to include a square meal and more. The Barn, as it has been tentatively named, features a restaurant, shower facilities, a sauna, a lounge and a retail store.

Joseph Cerquitella and George Massery of Diesel Dan's said only one-third of the 21,000-square-foot structure is occupied and plans call for adding 30 bedrooms, a truckers' brokerage service, a barbershop and a laundromat.

### Home away from home

The intent, they said, is to make the truck stop a bona fide home away from home for truckers.

"We want a very homey, clean, low-key atmosphere," said Mas-

sery, the assistant controller. "That's what we are; we're their bank, their bedroom, a place they can wash their clothes."

Diesel Dan's, the brainchild of Lenox Oil Co. owner Daniel M. Hunter, opened four years ago on Route 102 near the state turnpike interchange. It fueled 18-wheelers under a large canopy and dished out sandwiches in a small office building equipped with restrooms and showers. The business employed six full-time workers and six part-time workers.

Diesel Dan's now employs 60 to 70 people in management, maintenance, bookkeeping and food service. Based on the total amount of fuel sold and the average fuel intake by each truck, Cerquitella estimates

that the truck stop is a turnstile for 90,000 to 100,000 road trips a year.

The business sells roughly 600,000 gallons of diesel fuel a month and plans to escalate to 1 million gallons a month, he said. The yard can accommodate more than 100 18-wheelers.

Two years ago, Diesel Dan's purchased the Poly-Therm warehouse and about 5 acres from Gaston R. Robert of Pittsfield. Cerquitella could not recall the sale price, but Eagle records show that Poly-Therm bought the building in 1981 for \$135,000.

Viewing the structure as a promising but unsightly Quonset hut, the company undertook extensive interior and exterior renovations, Cer-

quitella said. The work, financed partly by Berkshire County Savings Bank, was performed in-house by maintenance chief Robert Gangell of Lee.

Gangell gave the rounded structure a barn-like appearance with a shingled, gambrel roof. Plans call for three wooden towers complete with weather vanes, ensuring that Diesel Dan's will be visible from far away. The interior, still being expanded, has been given a rustic wooden finish.

Cerquitella, the marketing director, said the building was appraised recently at \$1.1 million.

A manager is being sought for the Barn's restaurant, which seats 125 people and employs about 15. The menu features "trucker's portions" of traditional American fare in the \$7-\$8 range. Breakfast specials start at 99 cents.

Massery said residents are welcome to come rub elbows with the

driver is a normal human just like anybody else," he said. "But his transportation happens 10 times longer than mine, so we have to cater



# Developer in conflict

## LENOX

In the shadow of a freshly renovated three-family apartment house on Housatonic Street stands the unfinished skeleton frame of another apartment building, the subject of a stand-off between developer Charles L. Flint and the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Flint, developer of much of the commercial space on Lenox's Church Street, is unaccustomed to confrontations with town officials; he takes pride in his renovations and so does the town, according to neighbors and even ZBA members. But now he is accused of violating the town's zoning bylaws, his neighbors are complaining, and he claims to be baffled by the workings of small town politics. Until the problem is solved, his newest building remains a skeleton.

\* \* \*

Construction was halted after neighbors complained the new building was too large. The town then found Flint had been issued an improper building permit because he had not first obtained ZBA approval.

The ZBA says that Flint, with all his development experience, "should have known better" than to start construction before going to the ZBA. Flint claims he was issued a building permit "in good faith" by former inspector John T. Novo, who says he was unaware Flint needed ZBA approval.

Flint thought he was in the clear because the new building was going up on the same spot where another, rundown apartment, had stood. The ZBA says if Flint wanted to replace the old apartment building with another, he needed approval from the ZBA.

\* \* \*

Until now, Flint has had few troubles wading through Lenox's maze of regulations to develop four commercial buildings into space for more than 20 tenants. Townspeople think Flint's commercial buildings are aesthetically tasteful, and they like the offbeat colors and flowering plants.

He is regarded as a reasonable and responsive landlord. But he is also a shrewd, aggressive businessman who has approached a number of Church Street residents with of-



Charles L. Flint  
Reasonable and responsive

Ellen Lahr

fers to buy their houses. He does not like losing potential rental income because of the dispute over zoning.

Flint, 40, his wife, Laura Bergen, and their two children live on Golden Hill Road in Lee in an 18th century farmhouse he restored in the early 1970s. He says most of his money is tied up in real estate, but he managed to buy a Mercedes-Benz station wagon this spring.

\* \* \*

Flint worked his way up to his present lifestyle from a lower-middle-class childhood in East Lee. The oldest of four children, his mother was "a professional mother," and his father, "a very good crane operator." His parents now live in a second-floor apartment in one of their son's commercial buildings on Church Street; his father has woodworking space in another building.

In school, Flint had trouble reading and writing.

"Teachers weren't patient; they

embarrassed me," he said. "I could never understand why I was treated like 'one of the dumb kids.'"

At age 32, he finally found out his learning troubles were a result of dyslexia, a visual impairment that interferes with reading ability. Despite the trouble it caused him, dyslexia taught Flint to learn through observation rather than through reading and writing.

And observation, he said, seems to have helped him make a living by developing good-looking buildings and having an eye for antiques.

"If you create a better product, you have a better investment," he says.

After high school, Flint reconditioned used cars, pumped gas, fixed electronic devices. He moved to Bristol, Conn., where he worked as a crane operator and inspector at a General Motors parts factory. There he met his first wife, with whom he had two children.

He returned to Lee with his family in 1968 and worked in the contracting business. Then he got a job with an advertising agency. Around that time he restored the Golden Hill house. His interest in antiques grew, and in 1976 he quit the ad business and opened up a small antiques shop in a basement store in downtown Lenox. That year he and his wife were divorced. She now lives in Connecticut with the two children.

"The first year was very depressing, being in the basement," Flint recalls. But he was persistent and "all of a sudden it just took off."

He was doing well enough by 1978 to purchase the old Johnson's Plumbing Co. building on Church Street. The antiques business dwindled as real estate took more of his time, and one building led to another. In 1979, he married Bergen.

Flint says he thinks the only way to solve the problem with the unfinished apartment is to meet with the neighbors, hear their complaints, and try to arrive at a compromise. Once he has their support, he will go to the ZBA.

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night 6:45 p.m. all  
\$50 and \$100 games  
2. W.T.A. plus \$400  
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Every Sunday, 1:00  
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Extraordinary Movie Sun.,  
Aug. 2, 7 p.m. "The Women  
of Summer" Comments by  
Prairie Farkas, Daily  
World movie critic  
Berkshire Forum Stephen-  
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The Berkshire Eagle, Saturday, Aug. 9, 1986—21

## Departing librarian reviews goals and accomplishments

By Susan Phillips

NORTH ADAMS — Sitting at a table piled with papier-mache puppets soon to star in a production of Rumpelstiltskin, head librarian Constance J. Griffin considered the goals and accomplishments of her 5½-year tenure here. It will come to an end next week.

"It's our job to break down barriers," said Griffin, "to make information available and accessible. If someone thinks of the library as a place with nothing but dusty books, we have to change that."

Change that she has, helping to build a lively children's program, creating an employment information center — which includes an IBM Selectric typewriter for resumes and job-hunting letters — updating the collections of books, records and tapes, and actively promoting the library through events such as the 1984 centennial.

When Griffin arrived in 1981, the elegant rooms of the Blackinton Mansion held more than their share of dusty books, crammed into every available space. Half of the adult non-fiction books had been published before 1959. Lack of money, and of continuity at the top, had left their mark. Griffin's predecessor, David W. Bates, quit after just a year. He cited low pay as the reason for his short stay.

### A planning year

"My first year was really a planning year," said Griffin. With the help of a \$6,630 federal grant, Griffin and consultant Keith Fiels set out to analyze the library's shortcomings and the information needs of the community.

"The study produced recommendations we could use to develop some long-range goals and objectives," said Griffin. "I tend to think in those terms — where are we



Susan Phillips

Constance J. Griffin

Sad about leaving N. Adams

headed, how to chart a course."

One early goal was to ease the library's space shortage. "We had to weed the collection, open up the library so it wasn't quite as cramped," explained Griffin. "One problem with having your library in a place that was built as a house is you find yourself shelving part of the collection in closets and hallways. It can be very confining."

On the other hand, the late-Victorian mansion is an eye-catcher, with its slate mansard roof, sweeping staircase, chandeliers and mantelpieces. "It's a blessing and a curse," said Griffin. Because of the layout, the staff cannot hold programs such as film screenings or workshops or story hours without shutting down part of the library.

Working hard to improve children's services was part of Griffin's

long-range focus. "Children are a very important population to get interested in using the library," she said. "It's important to show them information is something you need to make a choice. In a democratic society, you make choices, and they have to be informed choices if we're going to exert some control over our lives."

### Has no regrets

Forces beyond her control brought Griffin to library work, but she has no regrets. She graduated from Wheaton College in 1973, certified to teach high school English. "The teaching market was pretty saturated at that time," she said. "I got a job as children's librarian at the Parker Library in Dracut. I decided I enjoyed library science so much, I went back to school part time to get my master's."

She received her master's degree in library science from Simmons in 1980. "I was fascinated by the scope of the field, the variety," she said. "I found administration very interesting. And it fit in with my firm belief that information is so integral to people's lives."

Griffin, who has accepted a position coordinating elementary school libraries for the Groton-Dunstable Regional School System in the Lowell area, acknowledged a certain sadness about leaving North Adams. "But it's tempered by a sense of confidence that the trustees and the mayor will look for someone energetic, with a social service orientation, to take my place," she said. "I really feel it's exciting, to think about what direction the library will take from here."

Trustee Anthony Talarico said finding a successor wouldn't be easy. "We'll try to find someone just like her, if we can. The time went by too fast."

## Briggs named West Stockbridge postmaster

WEST STOCKBRIDGE — Richard E. Briggs has been appointed postmaster of West Stockbridge by Northeast Regional Postmaster General John G. Mulligan.

Briggs will be formally sworn into office in ceremonies scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 25, at 2 at the post office. He will take the oath of office from Barbara A. Patterson, field di-

rector of marketing and communications in Springfield.

Briggs began his postal career in 1959 as a clerk in the Lee post office. His most recent position has been superintendent of postal operations in Lee. Other assignments in-

clude service as postmaster of South Lee.

Prior to joining the Postal Service, he served four years with the Air Force.

He is a graduate of Lee High School and has completed many postal-related courses at the Postal Education Development Center.

Among his community activities, Briggs has served as president of the South Lee Civic Association and as a member of the Lee Department of Public Works. He was a represen-

tative of the District Town Meeting, was a former member of the Tri-Town Hockey Association and coach of Little League and Babe Ruth programs.

Briggs succeeds William Anthony, who is serving as officer-in-charge at the Lenox post office.



# Selectmen going shopping for new Lee supermarket

By William J. Carey

LEE — This is a one-supermarket town where the local Price Chopper is a stone's throw from Main Street.

But many residents are buying their groceries elsewhere because Lee's prices just don't match up, according to the Selectmen. And the produce, they say, leaves something to be desired.

This week, the board voted to ask the town's Community Development Corp. actively to seek another supermarket for Lee on the assumption that competition will drive down prices and spruce up the aisles.

"It's been a problem all along," said Selectman William D. Bean, remembering the days when Lee was a three-supermarket town. "A lot of people are upset that they don't have the variety or the choice. As one of the town fathers, I'd like people to stay in town to do their shopping."

## Kick it around

Richard E. Sitzer, chairman of the Community Development Corp., said the suggestion is a new one for his board.

"We'll have to look at it, kick it around a bit, and see what's out there," he said after receiving a letter from the Selectmen.

The concerns of this town of 6,227 are not unfamiliar to the Schenectady, N.Y.-based Golub Corp., parent company of 58 Price Chopper supermarkets.

"I respect what they're saying," said Sue Ann Ritchko, vice president of consumer services. "I think any community that has one supermarket feels it's being discriminated against. The Price Chopper is not discriminating against the people of Lee."

Ritchko said prices are a few cents higher on some items due to the nature of the business. A store's pricing structure, she said, is based on its volume of business and ability to make a profit. Lee is considered a low-volume supermarket with about 10,000 individual shopping trips a week.

In comparison, Ritchko said the Lenox Price Chopper on Route 7 handles about 20,000 shopping trips a week and the Pittsfield Price Chopper on Merrill Road about 30,000. Their prices, as a result, may differ.

"When you have a smaller store you have less of a base to work on and that's the economics of our business," she said.

The produce is stored at three coolers in Schenectady and delivered without preference to all Price Chopper supermarkets, according to Ritchko. It comes primarily from California, Texas, Florida and South America.

Last fall, Golub Corp. purchased the property of the former Lee Super Market after leasing it for 14 years. The decision to buy, Ritchko said, demonstrates Price Chopper's long-term commitment to Lee. The supermarket employs about 70 people under the direction of Manager Richard M. Sheehan.

Recently, Price Chopper employees collected \$1,000 for the Laliberte Toy Fund.

Lee at one time had three large grocery stores, including an A & P and an Adams Super Market. Just where another supermarket would

be located is one question, Sitzer said, and the logic behind past closings is another.

"They're the pros in that business so you have to take that into consideration," he said of the former supermarkets.

The town has a flourishing trade in convenience stores, with Convenience Plus, Cumberland Farms, Grampy's and Food-N-Fuel all claiming a piece of the mile-long turf from Main Street to the Massachusetts Turnpike.

Bean suggests that a similarity of prices offered by the Price Chopper is benefiting its smaller competitors. "You could almost say Price Chopper is right up there with our convenience stores except that it doesn't sell gas," he said.

Ritchko, however, isn't alarmed by the prospect of a supermarket war in Lee.

"We always welcome competition," she said. "We thrive on competition."



William J. Carey

**PRICE CHOPPER MANAGER** Richard M. Sheehan stands in front of checkout lanes at Lee's only supermarket. The Selectmen want another supermarket chain to locate in town.



# Lee works on plan to keep district court in community

By William J. Carey

LEE — The town is mounting a "good-faith effort" to upgrade the Civil War Memorial Town Hall, which houses the Southern Berkshire District Court.

The effort, geared toward keeping the court in town, could set off a domino effect of town departments.

Selectmen Chairman Charles J. Driscoll is proposing that the police station and town switchboard, which are cramped for space in the Memorial Hall basement, be moved to an emergency complex he would like to build next to the Central Fire Station. The town's ambulance garage in the Airolidi Building would follow suit.

## Town meeting

Driscoll views the master plan as one of his most important projects since taking office.

Before anything happens, a committee of public officials and private citizens will seek between \$25,000 and \$40,000 for an engineering study of the renovation needs at Memorial Hall. The money will be requested in the form of an article at the annual town meeting.

Driscoll said the membership of the committee demonstrates the town's commitment to upgrade the stately building, which has a moth-balled second floor.

Named this week to serve with the selectmen were: Department of Public Works Superintendent J. Peter Scolforo, Police Chief Edward J. Finnegan, attorney Henry M. Donahoe, McClelland's Drug Store owner Francis X. Downing and Morgan House owner William Orford.

The office of state Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins, D-Lee, is also taking part in the planning, which started in the summer.

Memorial Hall was constructed in 1874 at a cost of \$29,000. The 2½-story brick building, which is the cornerstone of Main Street and Park Place, was intended both as a municipal building and memorial to fallen soldiers of the Civil War. Over the years it has housed a library, a post office, a basement barbershop and a second-floor theater.

In 1982, as a cost-cutting measure, the selectmen and other town departments moved to the Airolidi Building on Railroad Street, leaving the town clerk and assessors at Memorial Hall. The police station and switchboard remain in the basement of the older building.

## Sports storage

The second floor is vacant: the storage of football pads and documents is the only business evident.

The Southern Berkshire District Court, which has held sessions in Lee since the turn of the century, pays the town \$4,152 a year for the use of about half the first floor. The rent would be renegotiated if the

building is renovated.

Behind the town's current effort is the fear of losing both the court and the downtown business it generates.

The court sits two days a week in Lee and two days in Great Barrington, where it is housed, quite comfortably it is said, in renovated quarters at the former Dewey School.

History tends to repeat itself. In 1889, petitions were circulating to establish a six-town district court in Lee.

"That there is abundant ground for this petition is evident to all who are acquainted with the matter," said the weekly Valley Gleaner. "The present Police Court room is dingy, dirty, ily ventilated and altogether discreditable to the town."

First Justice Robert J. Donelan, asked to comment on the present facilities at Memorial Hall, said, "the word is abysmal." He faulted the location of restrooms, the lack of hot water and the necessity of holding lawyer-client meetings in the hallway because no other rooms are available.

"I think it's the lack of the basic amenities that ought to be addressed," said Donelan. "In general, I'm in favor of upgrading the court system anytime."

A recommendation from Donelan would be key to any court move if it was considered, according to a spokesman for Justice Samuel E. Zoll, who administers the state's 69 district courts. The ultimate decision for such a move lies with the office of Justice Arthur M. Mason, chief administrative justice of all state trial courts.

"I don't want the court to move out of Lee, that's a fact," said Driscoll, who inaugurated the good-faith effort. "I think it's beneficial to the town."

The flip side of renovating Memorial Hall and expanding court facilities would be to move the police station and dispatcher to a new building attached to the Central Fire Station, where the town owns a vacant plot of land. The ambulance garage, Driscoll suggested, could be moved out of the Airolidi Building to the new, 24-hour emergency complex.

## Dalton carnival gets under way

DALTON — The annual Winter Carnival will be getting under way this weekend with the start of a snow sculpture contest and snow races at Wahconah County Club Sunday, according to Debra J. Cronin, program director.

Participants in all events must purchase and display a Winter Carnival button. Winter Carnival contestants are selling the buttons for 50 cents.

The snow sculpture contest will run from tomorrow through Feb. 21. Residents are encouraged to create a sculpture in their own yards and notify the Community House. A representative will then take a picture, which will be included in the judging next month.

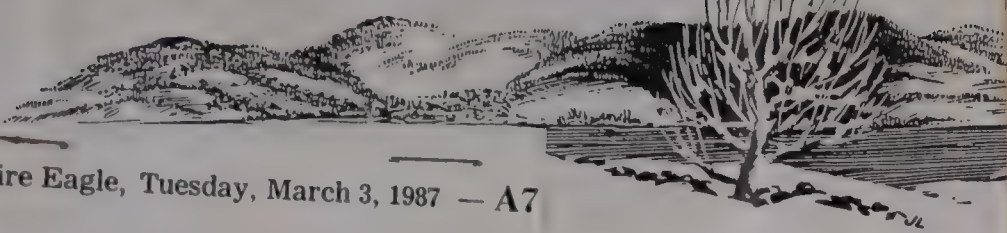
The snow races at the country club will be from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Family groups are urged to participate and to bring toboggans, saucers and sleds. Prizes will be awarded in several categories.

Other events include skating races Jan. 25 starting at 1 p.m. at the Community House rink, with family skating, a hay ride and hot dog roast to follow. A mini-olympics on ice will be held Feb. 7 at the Community House rink from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Games will include basketball throws, ice hockey slap shot, slide for life and snowball throw.

This year the ice fishing derby will be held Feb. 14 at Ashmere Lake from 8 a.m. to noon. Those interested in taking part must pre-register at the Community House before Jan. 31.



# Our Berkshires



The Berkshire Eagle, Tuesday, March 3, 1987 — A7

## Albion Winegar Tourgee

By Gerard Chapman

STOCKBRIDGE  
A PROMINENT writer dealing with the Reconstruction period following the Civil War was Albion Winegar Tourgee, part of whose youth was spent in East Lee on the banks of Hop Brook. His parents, who had met and in 1836 were married in Lee, were Valentine Tourgee Jr. and Louisa Emma Winegar, of French and German origin, respectively. Shortly after their marriage, Valentine and Louisa moved to a farm near Williamsfield, Ohio, where Albion was born May 2, 1838. It was because his mother had died in 1843 and he regarded his foster mother as oppressive that the youth "decided to sever connections with his home and go for protection and solace to his uncle, Jacob Winegar Jr. in Lee, Massachusetts." The late Lt. Col. William H. Winegar (1880-1971) was the last of his line to reside in East Lee, and the line is extinct in this area.

"The above quotation is from a short biography, 'Albion W. Tourgee' by Roy F. Dibble (Lemcke & Beuchner, 1921), which goes on to say that '... though he loved rod and gun with all the fervor of youth, the boy loved books as well, and it was at the library in Lee that his first real opportunity for extensive reading came.'"

\* \* \* \*

The youth prepared for college at Kingsville Academy in Ohio, and was a student at the University of Rochester, N.Y., when the Civil War broke out. He enlisted in 1862, was badly wounded at the first battle of Bull Run, and although absent from college, received his A.M. degree that year; in 1880 the institution awarded him the LL.D. degree.

After studying law he was admitted to the Ohio bar but re-enlisted, in the Ohio Volunteers, in 1862, fought with the Army of the Cumberland, was captured, and spent six months in three Confederate prisons, one of which was the notorious Libby Prison in Richmond.

Resigning from the Union Army because of his old wound, he took up law practice in Greensboro, N.C., where he was also a farmer and edited a paper. The following year he attended the Southern Loyalist convention in Philadelphia, and according to the National Cyclopaedia of American Biography, "took a prominent stand as one of the first advocates of Negro suffrage."

And according to his obituary in The New York Times, "he was an active member of the North Carolina Constitutional Conventions of 1868 and 1875, and was a member of the commission appointed to codify and revise the state's laws"; he based his work on the New York legal system as codified by Stockbridge's David Dudley Field. From 1868 to 1874 he was judge of the state's Superior Court; says the Cyclopaedia, "... he was prompt,



Albion Winegar Tourgee

fearless and impartial. . . . For five years, until [the Ku-Klux-Klan] was broken, there was unremitting warfare between it and the young judge," during which several attempts were made on his life. He practiced law until 1879, when he began actively to pursue a writing career. Five years earlier he had published a novel, then two legal tomes later in the 1870s.

\* \* \* \*

Over succeeding years Tourgee wrote many books, including six known as the "Reconstruction Novels," several series of columns in the Chicago Inter Ocean (a newspaper), and established two abortive magazines. Altogether, sources list 21 books, mostly fiction, which his biographer, Dibble, says are "of interest not so much to the student of literature as of politics."

Tourgee had gone south after the Civil War imbued with the idea of improving the lot of the emancipated blacks and, again according to Dibble, had "begun that fearless and imprudent course of unceasing criticism of all things Southern that marked his whole subsequent career." His novels and columns were diatribes against the philosophy of Southern life. Of his books, "A Fool's Errand" (1879) was the earliest of the "Reconstruction Six" and the most popular, with a sale of some 200,000 copies, phenomenal for the time. He drew upon his youth when he had its hero born "on a little hillside farm carved out of the Hopbrook Grant in Berkshire." Tourgee, one of the most eminent writers of his time, hammered too much on his single theme and gradually fell out of favor.

His wife — Emma L. Kilbourne, whom he had met at Kingsville Academy, and married May 14, 1863, at Columbus, Ohio — was his faithful amanuensis, copying and recopying his books as he wrote and revised them. They had a daughter Aimee, gifted with literary and artistic talents.

At the height of his popularity, in March 1881, he was accorded a din-

ner at the Union League Club in New York, where a member, Joseph H. Choate (soon to be a resident of Stockbridge), toasted him. And on June 24 he returned to Lee, to lecture on "Abou Ben Adhem." According to the local weekly, Valley Gleaner, "It was a dress affair, swallowtails and white kids." One of the sponsors observed that he was a "man of brilliant mind but inclined to be eccentric."

In that year, too, the Tourgees bought an estate, Thorheim, in Mayville, in Chautauqua County, Western New York.

\* \* \* \*

As his fortunes declined, Tourgee needed a source of regular income, and having campaigned for William McKinley, induced the president to appoint him U.S. Consul in Bordeaux, France. There he served, from 1897 until his death on May 21, 1905. His widow buried his ashes in Mayville, to which she had returned. His books, letters and other memorabilia are in nearby Westfield, N.Y.

It is in Florence Consolati's history of Lee, "See All the People" (1978) that one learns of Albion W. Tourgee's involvement in the historic Supreme Court case, Plessy vs. Ferguson. He had lost the case before the Louisiana Supreme Court



# Lenox residence sets record as it's sold for \$1.8 million

By Ellen Lahr

LENOX — Jonas and Elizabeth D. Dovydenas of 207 Under Mountain Road have purchased the abutting 127-acre Stonover Farm from Timothy A. Salvner for \$1.8 million, a move the buyers and seller said will prevent development of the farm property.

The sale, listed as a cash transaction, was filed Wednesday at the Central Berkshire Registry of Deeds. The \$1.8 million price is believed to be the highest ever paid in Berkshire County for property intended as a single-family residence, according to several sources.

Elizabeth Dovydenas said yesterday she and her husband bought the farm, "to protect ourselves," because Salvner informed them that

a developer, armed with plans for an eight-lot subdivision, had made an offer for the farm. The Dovydenas residence is at the southern edge of their own property, from where the proposed subdivision would be visible.

The Dovydenases said they intend to keep a portion of the Stonover Farm acreage that abuts their 158-acre estate. (They bought their estate, which is called Pine Needles, in 1981 for \$700,000.) They said they intend to resell the remaining farmland, 12-room farmhouse and outlying buildings with a restriction that would prevent future development or subdivision of the farmland. They said they have not yet determined how much acreage they plan to keep.

"We bought the place to keep Under Mountain Road from being developed," said Jonas Dovydenas, who called The Eagle Tuesday with news of the pending purchase. "If that [farm] goes, the whole character of Under Mountain Road will change."

## Back on the market

He added that the farm is now "back on the market," with the development restriction.

Mary K. O'Brien, register of the Central Berkshire Registry of Deeds in Pittsfield, said yesterday the \$1.8 million price is "categorically" the highest ever paid in the county for a

Residence sold  
Continued on Page B7



STONEOVER FARM is on Undermountain

## Residence sold for \$1.8 million

Continued from Page A1

property intended for use as a single-family residence.

The property is also known as "the Kennedy farm," because it was the home of the John D. Kennedy family for nearly 40 years.

The two-mile-long Under Mountain Road, which intersects Route 183 across from Tanglewood, is in the shadow of Lenox Mountain. The road winds among rolling fields, bucolic vistas and sparsely situated country houses.

Salvner, 37, inherited the farm two years ago from his friend and business associate, Herbert Patterson of New York City. Patterson's great-great-grandfather, John E. Parsons, built Stonover Farm in the mid-1870s as part of his family estate. The Parsons estate then encompassed about 400 acres between Lenox Mountain and Yokun Avenue 2 miles to the east.

### Demolished in 1942

The estate's main mansion on Yokun Avenue was demolished in 1942, two years after the death of Mary Parsons, who was John Parsons's daughter and heiress. Pieces of the

property were sold or left to heirs.

Elsie Parsons Kennedy, Mary Parson's neice and wife of John D. Kennedy, retained the farm and surrounding property. Elsie died in 1966; Kennedy in 1975. Elsie Kennedy's son Herbert, born during her first marriage, was heir to the property.

The Parsons and the Kennedys were known through the years for their conservation activities. Mary Parsons was instrumental in establishing the Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary; Kennedy donated an 84-acre wetland — Parsons' Marsh — to the town. He also donated what is now Kennedy Park.

The Stonover farmhouse and other buildings were constructed in the Victorian-era stone and shingle style. The main buildings have blue trim. The farm is an informal Lenox landmark because of the 30 or so ducks and geese that roam freely around the property. Salvner said the ducks and geese are included in the sale, and that the Dovydenases are now responsible for feeding them.

"We have no interest in owning the farm, we don't want the expense," said Elizabeth Dovydenas.

### Already some inquiries

She said she believes it will be easy to sell the farm, and has already had some inquiries from prospective buyers.

"I think there are a lot of New Yorkers looking for a second home," she said. "It's so beautiful and charming, but it's very simple."

Salvner, who moved to the farm from New York after Patterson's death, said he is selling the farm because "it's a full-time job" to main-

tain the five century-old buildings. He said the Dovydenases' offer of \$1.8 million was "about equal" to what the developer had offered.

The farm was listed for sale in Sotheby's International Realty, a London-based firm with high-priced listings.

Jonas Dovydenas said the property will probably be sold for less than the purchase price since he and his wife are retaining part of the acreage for themselves.

Elizabeth Dovydenas is the plaintiff in a \$7 million suit against the Bible Speaks. The suit maintains she was improperly persuaded to donate that amount to the religious organization based on Kemble Street.



# Julia O'Mooney's shelter attracts \$5,700 in donations

By Ellen G. Lahr

LENOX — Julia B. O'Mooney has received \$5,700 in contributions since Dec. 13 for the "freelance" shelter for the homeless she operates out of her rented house at 55 Chapman Road in Pittsfield.

O'Mooney, whose landlord has asked her to move out by spring, told of the contributions following last night's Lenox Selectmen's meeting, where she went to request support and suggestions for her relocation effort. The Selectmen expressed support but didn't have any immediate ideas about locations.

She told the Selectmen she is in the market either for a house or a plot of land in Lenox, Lee, Stockbridge or Pittsfield that will accommodate her year-old operation, the only long-term shelter in the county.

She said her landlord, Jane M. Fallon, has offered to give her the rented house, if O'Mooney will move it to a new location. O'Mooney said she has found a house mover in Lee who has agreed to relocate the house once a parcel of land is found.

O'Mooney will also request support from Stockbridge and Pittsfield officials.

## \$10 to \$500

O'Mooney said the donations came following the Dec. 13 publication of an Eagle article about her effort, "Family at Chapman Corner." She produced a handful of Christmas cards and letters, which contained contributions ranging from \$10 to \$500, from North Adams to Monterey. Many of the donations were anonymous.

O'Mooney, who was a nurse for many years, said Fallon has asked her to move because of possible plans to develop the farm property.

Moving the house, she said, would be simpler and less expensive than attempting to purchase a new house. Her offer of \$175,000 for a house on the Lee Road was turned down by the sellers, she said.

"Housing is very tough to come by at an affordable price," said Selectman Chairman George L. Darey.

"You can get a doghouse for \$100,000 in Lenox, but that's without the dog," quipped Selectman John J. Pignatelli.

O'Mooney replied that money to establish shelters for the homeless is plentiful in private fund-raising or-

ganizations. Neighborhood opposition, she said, is generally the obstacle.

Pignatelli asked if O'Mooney has served homeless people from Lenox. She replied no, that most of the people she has served are from Pittsfield, Lee and Stockbridge. But she said she has received numerous calls from Lenox residents in need of food and blankets.

## Project Bread

Of the \$5,700 O'Mooney has received, \$2,500 came from Project Bread, a Boston-based organization that sponsors the annual Walk for Hunger events. The balance came from individual contributions, she said.

Just a month ago, O'Mooney was \$2,000 in debt. But recent donations have put the shelter in the black. O'Mooney paid Fallon \$1,200 in back rent, cleared up back bills and put \$2,000 into a savings account intended for the eventual purchase of a house or a plot of land.

At Fallon's request, O'Mooney has suspended the shelter operation for now, while she is waiting for the state to approve her application for status as a tax-exempt non-profit organization, and while she is looking for a new shelter location.

But while she is not taking in more homeless people, she continues to provide food and clothing for needy area families. For example, she said, this week she spent \$370 on groceries for three Pittsfield families whose food stamps had run out until Jan. 13.

In other business the Selectmen:

— Voted to grant the Stockbridge Police Department permission to use the Lenox police station's two lockup cells during emergencies.

— Accepted Finance Committee member Danial M. Petell's resignation and appointed Thomas Sherman to replace him.

— Appointed Police Officer Timothy P. Sheehan as town constable.

— Agreed to ask Police Chief David W. Berkel to improve enforcement of town ordinances requiring motorists to stop for pedestrians in crosswalks. The board also voted to have improved stop signs placed in the middle of crosswalks on Walker and Main streets.

— Discussed insurance business with the town's insurance committee.





LEE'S OLDEST RESIDENT, Angelo Spagnolatti, 98, holds the famed Boston Post Cane. With him are four of his stepchildren, from left, Alfra Guachione, Irma Scarafoni, Erminio Salinetti and Lorenzo Salinetti.

William J. Carey

## Boston Post Cane given to 98-year-old Lee man

LEE — The historic Boston Post Cane has been passed on to 98-year-old Angelo Spagnolatti of Lois Street, the town's oldest resident.

Spagnolatti was recognized yesterday at a ceremony attended by four generations of his descendants, a group that included Selectman Christopher A. Salinetti. The gold-tipped cane was awarded later at a small family gathering for the jovial man, who decided at the last moment to skip the formalities at the Lee Senior Center.

Spagnolatti was born Dec. 15 in Berbenno, Italy, and immigrated to the United States as at the age of 17. He worked at the Lee Lime Co. for about 40 years.

Although he speaks English, he prefers Italian. He drinks a glass of hot water each morning and has a bottle of beer with each meal. Until

a few years ago, he walked up to 4 miles a day.

The ebony cane dates back to 1909, when E.A. Grozier, publisher of the Boston Post, gave hundreds of canes to New England towns as a gimmick to increase the newspaper's circulation. Lee's version was lost for half a century before it was rediscovered in a wood barrel at the Masonic Home in Charlton.

The previous holder was Helen G. "Nel" Fanning, who died this summer at the age of 99. Fanning, once featured in Yankee magazine, was awarded the cane in 1982.

Stephen A. Cozzaglio, vice principal of Lee Central School, officially transferred the cane to Spagnolatti on behalf of the Council on Aging. He said the cane will be kept on display at the Lee Library.



Apr. 23. 86 Eagle



ON HOUSATONIC STREET in Lee, the focus of beautification program to improve the visual approach to the Berkshires, is state Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins, D-Lee. William Carey

## 'Lee Way' envisioned as catalyst for further road improvements

By William Carey

LEE — Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins said he hopes the 3-month-old "Lee Way" program will be a catalyst for road improvements from the Massachusetts Turnpike to the Laurel Street bridge.

With that goal, Hodgkins' beautification committee is nearing final implementation of the Lee Way program, which is intended to transform a mile-long stretch of Housatonic Street leading from the turnpike into the "gateway of the Berkshires." The committee will discuss final design plans for trees, shrubbery and roadside fencing along with a model sign bylaw at the Caropreso Gallery on Friday, May 2.

Kitty Dukakis, wife of the governor and a Lee Way advocate, will be on hand for the meeting. Dukakis had not confirmed plans for a previously scheduled meeting April 25 and could not attend because of the governor's re-election announcement, Hodgkins said.

### Signs grandfathered

The goal of the program is to regulate both state and commercial signs and transform Housatonic Street, now adorned by fast-food restaurants, convenience stores and gas stations, into an attractive "gateway" to the Berkshires, according to Hodgkins. The sign bylaw, potentially the only bone of contention in the Lee Way program, would allow a grandfather clause for existing signs while forcing new advertising to meet a uniform code. "But as soon as an existing sign is changed at all," Hodgkins said, "they would need a permit to do it."

Proponents also hope to eliminate six billboards owned by Maurice Callahan & Sons of Pittsfield near the turnpike entrance. However, the company has said it is unwilling to remove the billboards, which are located in prime advertising space.

Hodgkins has introduced legislation to put a 5 percent tax on all billboards, with the proceeds to be used to compensate owners for the rights to their signs. He said the local billboards are scheduled for review in September by the state's outdoor advertising board, which falls under the Department of Public Works.

Residents and business concerns responding to a recent survey singled out advertising and traffic on Housatonic Street as major areas of concern. Only 10 residents and eight of about 20 businesses answered the survey, but merchants polled yesterday said they supported the beautification campaign.

"I think there's a strong feeling of community not only for Lee, but for the town as a gateway to the Berkshires for business, industry and tourism," said Linda Hebert of Realty World at 40 Housatonic St.

"The street could use some beautification," said Jutta Larson, owner of the Pilgrim Motor Inn. "I'm very happy they're doing something about it."

George Ball, manager of the Lee

Cumberland Farms, said: "Whatever they do is only going to benefit the town and the county. I think their heads are in the right direction and if their energies are in the right direction, we're all set."

Ball said he did have some reservations about a restrictive sign bylaw.

"We're not trying to put up neon signs," he said. "We're trying to upgrade the appearance and conform to the town bylaws. We're trying to be aggressive and stay in step with other convenience stores without being outlandish."

"I think people in business need to be seen," said Candie Brunell of R & W Towing, which rents space at the former Lee Ford. "How well they need to be seen, I don't know."

Hodgkins said the Lee Way program will serve as a blueprint for road improvements through Main Street to the Laurel Street bridge, where the state DPW has made a "commitment" to create a future park area.

He said Lee Way, backed by the Public Space Partnership program under Mrs. Dukakis and planned by University of Massachusetts graduate students, has not expended any new state funds.

"We've been the facilitator," he said of the community. "Kitty Dukakis has applied the pressure and UMass has done the work."

## Use of Beacco property topic of joint meeting

By Abby Pratt



# In Memoriam



A street at Dugway Proving Ground in Utah is a memorial to Eugenio L. "Beppo" Bonafin of the class of 1943. This information was unearthed by John A. Pierce '43 of Arley, AL following a discussion begun during a class of 1943 40th reunion. Pierce addressed his inquiry about his missing classmate to the Department of the Army and learned that Bonafin was killed in action July 13, 1944 in the vicinity of Auxais, France by machine gun fire as his company (A Co.) was acting as forward observer with the 3rd Battalion of the 331st Infantry Regiment of the 83rd Division. The Army reports Lt. Bonafin's final burial in 1949 in Section J of the Long Island National Cemetery in Farmingdale, New York.

## SHOREY '10 MS

MADILLA SHOREY died September 28, 1986 at the Berlin Convalescent Home in Berlin, VT. She is survived by several nieces and nephews.

After her graduation from Montpelier Seminary she attended Goddard Seminary in Barre. She also graduated from Castleton Normal School in 1928. She taught for several years in Barre, Plainfield and Bellows Falls, VT. She taught school in Winchendon, MA until her retirement in 1950.

She was a member of the WCTU in Plainfield and the Grace Methodist Church. Her interests included traveling, music and the outdoors.

## LOCKE '19

WINTHROP W. LOCKE died October 1, 1986 at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Brockton, MA after a brief illness. He is survived by a son, Robert J. Briggs of Venice, FL; a brother, [unclear] of [unclear]; and a daughter, Martha [unclear].

of the First United Methodist Church of Baldwin, NY. He was also a member and past president of the Fort Totten Chapter Retired Officer's TROA in Long Island, NY, and a past president of the Mr. and Mrs. Club, First United Methodist Church.

## DARLING '34

ALFRED B. DARLING died on September 7, 1986 in Clearwater Beach, FL. He is survived by a daughter, Jane Miller of Kenneth Sq., PA; a sister Carolyn D. Ahern of Lake Worth, FL; five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Before moving to Florida in 1954, Al was the owner of the Darling Inn in Lyndonville, VT. He later became owner-operator of the Yacht Basin Apartments in Clearwater, FL. He was on the Board of Directors of the First National Bank of Clearwater, as well as a member of the Classic Car Club. He was a veteran of World War II.



Dr. Richard F. Clarke

## Dr. Clarke heads staff at Fairview

GREAT BARRINGTON — Dr. Richard F. Clarke was elected medical staff president at Fairview Hospital at the staff's annual meeting this week.

Clarke, who replaces Dr. John Bellizzi as medical staff president, has had a private practice in town as a family practitioner for the past seven years. He graduated from Yale University of Medicine in 1970 and received his residency training from the National Services Corps in Jefferson, N.Y. Before moving to the Berkshires, Clarke directed a rural clinic in Schoharie County, N.Y.

Clarke is board certified in the American Academy of Family Practice. He is the medical director for Hospice of South Berkshire and for the Willowood Nursing Home and Retirement Facility. He has been the appointed county medical examiner for the district since 1980.

Clarke lives on Highland Drive with his wife Pamela and their two children.

Other officers elected at the annual meeting included Dr. Raymond Sabatelli as vice president of the medical staff and Dr. Dennis F. Tresp as secretary and treasurer.



# Inventiveness

A designer looks at designing.

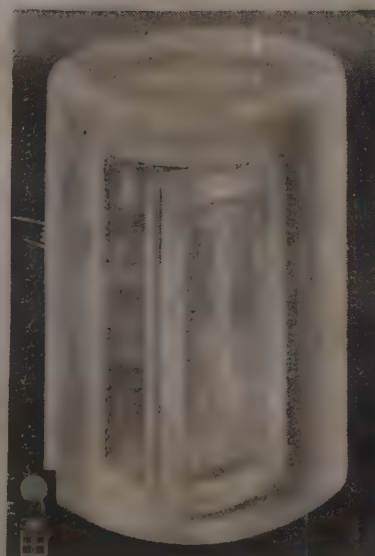
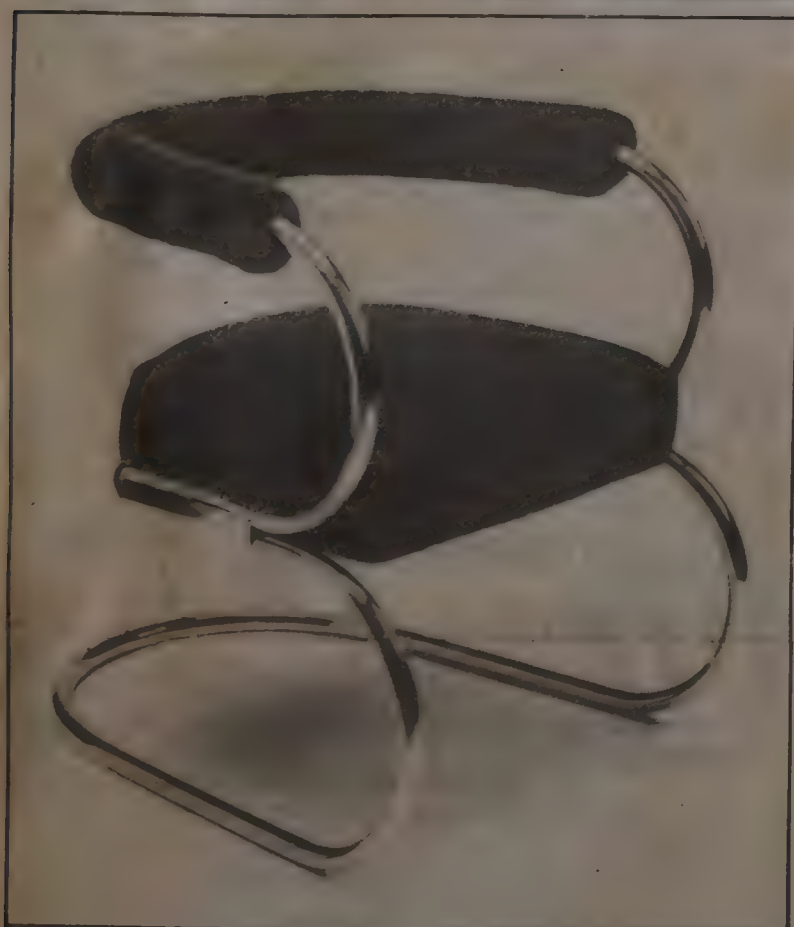
The Berkshire Eagle

## HABITAT

Friday, November 14, 1986



Joel Librizzi



Nathan George Horwitt with Beta Chair model, top; full-size Beta Chair prototype, left, designed in 1930; and idea for rotor refrigerator, 1935, above.

Brooklyn Museum

*continued on  
p. 96*





NEW YOUTH DIRECTOR in Lee, David Canterbury, left, is shown with some of the young people who frequent the center, Christopher Unsworth, Patrick O'Brien and Lee Skowron. William J. Carey

## Lee youth director has changed his location, not his vocation

LEE — The children may be new, but the setting is the same for Lee's new youth director, David C. Canterbury.

Since graduating from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in 1971, Canterbury, 38, has spent most of his adult life coaching and teaching children. Before coming to Lee, he served as director of physical education at the Springfield Boys' Club on Carew Street, rubbing elbows and playing street hockey with underprivileged black and Hispanic children from the neighborhood.

He and his wife, Pamela, a merchandiser at K-Mart in Westfield, have two children of their own. Michael, 17, and Jaime, 13, are students in the Gateway Regional School District.

### 19 applicants

Canterbury's credentials impressed the Youth Commission, which chose him in October from a list of 19 applicants for the \$15,700-a-year post left by Janet E. Pompi, the town's second youth director. Pompi has taken a job at Lee Central School.

Canterbury, a three-sport athlete at Westfield High School, was the Western Massachusetts-long jump champion in his junior and senior years and held the school record for 19 years. He attended Cheshire Academy in Connecticut for a year

and entered UMass, majoring in psychology and running track for two Yankee Conference championship teams.

After graduating, he applied his skills to a teaching-coaching position at Cheshire Academy, followed by a stint at Westfield Middle School. He parted from the classroom momentarily to serve as manager of the Connecticut Valley Biological Supply Co. and returned as a science teacher at Gateway.

Canterbury was directing winter and summer activities at the Boys' Club when a newspaper advertisement alerted him to Lee. The local children, he said, are an outgoing, well-behaved bunch when compared to hardened inner-city youths.

### Community support

"The whole community structure is different," said Canterbury, who joined the Youth Center in early November. "The whole community is supportive, which is helpful to our operations."

He will be in charge of operations at the two-story Academy Street headquarters and town park on Housatonic Street. Already in the works is a \$1,500 renovation of the Youth Center's time-worn first floor, which will complement a renovation to the second floor completed this year.

A larger, more comprehensive fa-

cility "is not out of our sights," Canterbury said.

"I think it's inevitable because of the amount of kids we're serving," he said. "I'd like to be a part of it."

Lee Housing Authority candidates who wish to replace the Rev. Walter S. Ryan, who has resigned, may submit a letter of application to the Selectmen. The candidate would serve until May and would be required to seek re-election. The Selectmen accepted Ryan's resignation with regret.

Lee residents interested in a position on the Red Cross Disaster Committee may contact Kenneth LaBier, assistant chairman. Franklin Sturgis, who served more than 25 years on the committee, has resigned as chairman. His resignation was accepted with regret by the Selectmen.

Lee High School music department will present its annual winter concert at 2 p.m. Sunday in the school cafeteria. The program will feature seasonal music performed by the concert band, jazz band and vocal ensemble. The concert is free and open to the public.



12/10/86

## Acting librarian appointed to post in North Adams

NORTH ADAMS — Elizabeth A. Jarisch, acting head librarian at the North Adams Public Library for the past three months, learned yesterday that she can start settling into the corner office overlooking Main Street.

Jarisch has been officially appointed to the \$18,400-a-year position by Mayor John Barrett III, acting on the unanimous recommendation of the library board of trustees.

Jarisch, adult services and reference librarian since March 1983, was not an early applicant for the post left vacant by Constance "Jeanie" Griffin last August. But she threw her hat in the ring in November, when the trustees decided to extend the application deadline because so few people had replied.

"I was tentative at first. I wasn't sure I'd be comfortable with the administration part of it. I've been in public service since I started, and I didn't want to leave that," said Jarisch yesterday. However, as she gained experience as acting head, she said, "I learned I can keep a hand in both the administrative and the public service aspects. It's a different kind of challenge."

She will be overseeing a staff of nine, six full-time and three part-time employees, once she has filled the adult services and reference position left vacant by her appointment.

### Running smoothly

Mary S. Boisvert, trustees chairman, said yesterday that Jarisch's on-the-job performance was key in the board's recommendation. "She has done a wonderful job, and the library is running very smoothly," she said.

Boisvert said that the extended deadline had brought in a number of new applications and that the board considered about 16 applicants from all over the country. "We had a very good response, considering North Adams is a small town," she said.

Barrett said the appointment of Jarisch, a North Adams native, will guarantee some continuity in the direction of the library. "She's a local woman who came back after graduating from college, and that bodes well for the city," he said. "And she was trained very well under Jeanie Griffin, who did an outstanding job. As acting head librarian, she really has grown into the position."

Jarisch holds a master's degree in library science from the State University of New York in Albany and a bachelor's degree in English and religion from Mount Holyoke. She graduated from Drury High School in 1977.

She said that, as a child, she was an avid explorer of the stacks inside the Victorian-era Blackinton mansion. "In those days, the children's department wasn't open all the time. I remember standing there, waiting for the chain to come down so I could go in," she said. The li-



Susan C. Phillips  
Elizabeth A. Jarisch  
Longtime library fan

brarians knew her preferences and used to put aside books about horses for her to take home.

While Jarisch is a lifetime fan of the library, she said it has changed for the better since the days when the dictionary was chained to a desk in the reference room and the goal of many librarians was to maintain a solemn silence. "I don't like the hush-hush approach," she said. "I'd rather have the kids keep coming back and learn to enjoy the library."

## Lee planners give OK to Fairview St. water tower

LEE — The Planning Board on Monday granted the Department of Public Works a special permit to build a municipal water tower off Fairview Street.

The special permit allows for a non-conforming use, the water tower, in a residential area. Town meeting representatives approved the tower June 18.

DPW Chairman David Parker said the facility is part of the town's water-distribution system and therefore an allowable use. He said the Planning Board hearing was scheduled to "cover the legalities" of the construction because some question remained as to whether the water tower is "essentially" a part of the town's system.

Voting to grant the permit were Chairman Marion Greenleaf, Sallie Kate Kish, Joseph DuPont and Leif Steinert. Member Robert Birch was not present.

Two abutters, Mary Donahoe and Kevin Lang, attended the hearing.

The DPW recommended the water tower, which will be funded through a \$1 million state grant, to increase the amount of water available for fighting fires on Route 102 in South Lee. The tower is expected to improve water pressure in the homes along Fairview Street.

Opponents said the tower was an unsightly structure that could be built elsewhere with less controversy. The land taking for the site was defeated at the annual town meeting in May and then passed on the strength of a 31-10 standing vote in June.

In granting the permit, the Planning Board said the tower conformed with sections of the zoning

bylaw relating to non-conforming uses. Steinert said he found the facility "a permissible extension of a non-conforming use."

Specifically, the board determined that the water tower is "essential or desirable" to the public welfare at the proposed location, will not be detrimental to adjacent uses or "the future character of the neighborhood," will not create undue traffic congestion or endanger pedestrians and will not overload water, sewer or drainage facilities to the extent of being a public hazard.

The tower will be 75 feet tall with a 60-foot diameter and will hold 1.5 million gallons of water.

Parker said the state will oversee the bidding process.

## Supper slated tonight at Tyringham church

TYRINGHAM — The Tyringham Union Church will hold its annual harvest supper tonight, with sittings from 5:30 through 7. Price will be \$5 for adults, \$3 for children under 12 and free for children under 4.

## Middlefield Grange picks voting delegates

MIDDLEFIELD — Middlefield Grange No. 310 will be represented by Lois Leonardo-Bell, master, and her husband, George L. Bell, as voting delegates to the annual meeting of the Massachusetts State Grange in Plymouth tomorrow, Friday and Saturday.

The Oct. 28 meeting of Middlefield Grange will be open to the public and will feature a 6:30 potluck supper at the school, followed by a program on safety by local and state police.

There will also be a discussion on the questions that will appear on the ballot at the Nov. 4 election.

Hillside Pomona Grange No. 20 will meet with Middlefield Grange on Monday evening, Nov. 3, with a supper at 6:30.

Middlefield 4-H'ers are selling 4-H cookies. Those interested in purchasing cookies should contact the town chairman, Lois Leonardo-Bell.

## Drug abuse program on district's agenda

GREAT BARRINGTON — The Berkshire Hills Regional School Committee will hear an update on the district's drug-abuse program tomorrow when the board meets at Monument Mountain Regional High School.

The meeting, which starts at 7:30 p.m., also will consider several educational programs and a request to use the track and field facilities for the Southern Berkshire Special Olympics.

## Lee Library to hold book discussions

LEE — The Lee Library has been selected as one of 12 libraries in the state to present a book discussion for senior citizens. The program is funded by a grant of \$34,700 given to the Massachusetts Library Association by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Librarian Betty L. Dennis said the library will deal with the theme of "Working: Making a Living, Making a Life." Books for discussion will be "Growing Up" by Russell Baker, "Death of a Salesman" by Arthur Miller, "The Professor's House" by Willa Cather, "Working" by Studs Terkel and "Confessions of an Advertising Man" by David Ogilvy.

The reading list was developed by the American Library Association. The program will be headed by Sarah Getty. Each series will consist of five meetings every other week beginning with a scholar's lecture and continuing with discussion in small groups.



9/22/86

# From Lee to Africa and back

## Teaching in Zimbabwe gives couple new perspective

By William J. Carey

LEE — Living in a Third World country, has given Dr. Stuart H. Bartle of West Road a bird's-eye view of the United States. Rather than pondering his retirement, Bartle, now 61, has accepted a two-year assignment at the University of Zimbabwe as a senior lecturer in the psychiatry department. He is one of a handful of psychiatrists in the country.

His wife, Barbara, plans to teach schoolchildren at the secondary level by appointment of the Ministry of Education. She is 59.

Zimbabwe, once known as Rhodesia, was established in 1980. In its short life span, the South African nation has been praised for making social and economic strides. But it has also been criticized for a destructive rivalry between Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and opposition leader Joshua Nkomo, who were allies in the battle against former Prime Minister Ian Smith and his racially segregated regime.

### Home for wedding

The Bartles first went to Africa in February and returned home recently for the marriage of their son, Christopher, in Stockbridge. This week, they will make the 17-hour trip back to Zimbabwe via Johannesburg.

In Zimbabwe, the couple live in a one-story bungalow outside the bustling capital city of Harare, formerly Salisbury. Their home is located in one of the more fashionable suburbs of the city, comprised mostly of whites and some middle-class blacks who have worked their way up through the economy, Stuart Bartle said.

Life is comfortable enough, however, Barbara Bartle said consumer goods like the Zimbabwe-made "Surf" laundry detergent often disappear from the shelves only to reappear weeks later.

Harare and much of Zimbabwe share a piece of Africa's 1,000-mile-long "highveld," a lofty plateau free from the scourge of malaria in the lowlands. Stuart Bartle said the climate is moderate, never varying much from 70 to 80 degrees. The country's economy is based on agriculture and mining, with products such as cotton, tobacco, maize, gold and nickel.

Bartle worked as a psychiatrist in New York City for 17 years and also taught medical students at New York University. Prior to that, he was a cardiologist at the University of Virginia. Of the switch to psychiatry, he said, "It seemed like a better life for me dealing with those



William J. Carey

**ZIMBABWE RESIDENTS** Barbara and Stuart Bartle of West Road returned home recently for the marriage of their son. The couple have lived part time in Lee since the 1970s.

kinds of problems rather than so much life and death."

Along with lecturing, the white-haired American is a consultant in charge of the psychiatric ward at the university hospital. Bartle earns \$31,000 Zimbabwe dollars a year, worth about 60 cents on the American dollar. He is one of nine trained psychiatrists in Zimbabwe.

### Students motivated

The students, he said, are "very bright, motivated and mature," having survived a network of barrier exams established under the old British system. About half of them are from the poorer, rural areas.

"What led me to go there," he said, "was the excitement of doing

something very new with medical students who I heard were very eager to learn in a situation where there are virtually no psychiatrists."

According to Bartle, Zimbabwe suffers from roughly the same percentage of schizophrenia, depression and manic-depressive illness as other countries, but has a higher degree of organic mental disorders involving the brain. He said many people in the rural areas are treated by traditional healers or "N'angas" who rid offending spirits for a fee.

The psychiatrists, Bartle said, recognize a trauma that others don't see. Although the transition from Rhodesia to Zimbabwe was accomplished without mass retaliations against the ruling white

minority, many blacks still harbor the anguish of a bloody, seven-year struggle for independence. Bartle said he plans to organize "rap sessions" for combat veterans because "we think there are a lot of them going around with the war still in them."

He is also trying to raise money to have children with congenital heart defects brought to Mount Sinai Hospital in New York for operations.

Bartle gave Zimbabwe high marks for improving race relations and maintaining the technical infrastructure of the country after independence. Barbara Bartle, who taught 13 years at the Chapin School in New York City, said the government has placed an emphasis on education.

But Stuart Bartle agreed with critics that Mugabe's party and the Shona majority of 7 million people have adopted a hostile stance toward Nkomo and the 1.5 million Ndebele minority, located in the central region of Matabeleland.

Mugabe's Marxist-Leninist trappings have also alienated the United States, but the criticism is mutual, Bartle said. Zimbabwe's stance toward the U.S. has been colored by half-hearted sanctions against South Africa, the bombing of Tripoli and the support of contras in Nicaragua and guerrillas in Angola, he said.

"Our policy toward South Africa is embarrassing," he said. "It is viewed as a hypocritical stand by the United States." This country is avoiding stiff sanctions against South Africa mainly because, "we don't want to lose access to their materials . . . and we're afraid the Soviets will gain from it," he said.

Bartle, a World War II veteran, noted that living in a Third World country, "has not made me care less for our country. But it has made me much more conscious of how we're seen."



10/24/86

# Librarian at Monument Mt. reports 3,875 books missing

By Derek Gentile

GREAT BARRINGTON — Monument Mountain librarian JoAnn Lancaster told the Berkshire Hills Regional District School Committee last night that 3,875 books were missing from the high school library.

That amounts to almost a third of the number of books that should be in the library's collection. Lancaster said there are currently 9,283 books on the shelves.

In addition, she reported, 690 books were piled in her office uncatalogued and 969 books on the library's shelves had no record of acquisition.

The library, she said, "was not meeting students' needs" and would require \$12,400 annually for five years to bring it "up to par."

She said it was impossible to determine how many periodicals the library should have and that many were damaged. Microfilm records were random, and many micro-fimed periodicals were not recorded, she said. The latter was a moot point, she said, because all the microfilm machines were unusable.

A large number of the library's reference books were out of date and missing. Lancaster reported that of six sets of encyclopedias, some with many editions, none were complete.

### No inventory in 16 years

Lancaster, who replaced former librarian Hugh G. Black last summer, has been conducting an inventory since the school year began. Black resigned under fire in June. During a dismissal hearing in the summer of 1985 he was accused by the administration and school committee of not being able to keep order among the books or the students.

There had been no inventory since 1970, Lancaster said, and many books marked missing were on the shelves. She reported several boxes of unexplained filing cards to be either filed or discarded. She said the missing books probably had simply not been returned by students who borrowed them over the years.

Lancaster listed areas of weakness in the collection to be fiction, science, literary reference, contemporary social issues, biography, sports, technological developments, plays and outdoor subjects.

Students did not use the library,

she said, and teachers were reluctant to make assignments requiring library resources.

Lancaster said she was still looking into problems, but estimated \$12,400 would be needed yearly to restore the facility, with another \$9,420 for equipment.

### 'Dire problem'

Interim superintendent Roland D. Duval termed the situation "a dire problem" and asked the school com-

mittee to give its full attention.

"This is not something that can wait until budget time or next year," he said. "This is something we should address now."

Committee member Peter J. Negrini requested the board look into ways of funding library improvements. The board also suggested Lancaster look into using students for some of the necessary clerical work.

In other business, Peer Educational Program coordinator William N. Fields reported that students in the 6th grade were "alarmingly" aware of drugs and alcohol.

Fields's program uses junior and senior students at Monument Mountain Regional High School as counselors for 6th and 8th grade students.

"It was amazing how much they knew," said Kim Komer, one of the senior counselors. "We learned that drugs and alcohol are in the 6th grade. It's definitely a problem."

Committee member Gordon D. Soule asked the group if drugs were introduced in lower grades.

"I think they are," said Ann Louison, another student. She said she spoke with 4th grade students who knew about drugs from older brothers and sisters.

Engle 5718157



Dorothy W. Chapman  
Rose D. Wilson

## Hinsdale Library gets new director

HINSDALE — Rose D. Wilson of East Windsor Road, Peru, has been appointed director of the Hinsdale Free Public Library by the library board of trustees.

A former Windsor resident, Wilson graduated from North Adams State College with a degree in business administration.

She will replace the late Olive L. Drosehn, who was librarian for 21 years.

Wilson was manager of Information Resources in Pittsfield for four years and most recently worked part time for the past two years for Harry's Super Market.

She is married to Peter A. Wilson, a draftsman for the Berkshire County Surveying Department. The couple have a 15-month-old daughter, Amanda.

Peter White of Curtis Street has been appointed to the library board of trustees. He is also chairman of the Historical Commission.

Wilson said any parents interested in enrolling their children in the summer reading program should register before June 6.

A book sale is planned for this summer. Anyone wishing to donate books may drop them off at the library during regular hours.

New library hours effective today will be Tuesdays from 2 to 5, Wednesdays from 5 to 8 and Saturdays from 10 to 2.

## Roosa defeats incumbent to win position as selectman in Lee

LEE — In her first bid for elective office, former Town Accountant Diane P. Roosa defeated incumbent Selectman Charles J. Driscoll by more than 200 votes.

Roosa, 37, won the selectman's chair 526-318 after waging an aggressive door-to-door and telephone campaign. She said her first term will be a "learning experience."

A total of 83 voters, about 29 percent of the registered voters, turned out for the election at the Senior Center. No other positions were contested on the ballot.

Though Roosa has never held elective office, she has been heavily involved in town government, serving as a secretary with the Police Department, Zoning Board of Appeals and Memorial Hall study committee.

Last night, she accepted congratulations with her husband, Ralph, after the results were announced by Town Clerk John J. Nagle at 8:45. Driscoll, who was first elected in 1984 and served as chairman of the board, was not present.

Also yesterday, Roosa's brother, Richard A. Heath Sr., was re-elected as a Tyringham selectman. He was not challenged.

Immediately after the results were announced, the Lee Selectmen reorganized and chose William D. Bean as chairman. Bean, 41, is a roll balancer with Clark-Aiken-Matik and was first elected to the



William J. Carey  
Diane P. Roosa  
Selectman

board in 1985.

Newcomers voted in last night were School Committee member Patricia D. Carlino and Planning Board member Jill Bickford Groff, who were uncontested.

By a margin of 444-285, voters said they favor a Board of Health ban on smoking in public buildings

and other facilities used by the public.

The results:

Moderator (Elect 1, 1 year)	646
Joseph M. Toole*	
Selectman (Elect 1, 3 years)	318
Charles J. Driscoll*	
Diane P. Roosa	526
Assessor (Elect 1, 3 years)	649
William F. Derrick*	
Tax collector (Elect 1, 3 years)	709
Janice G. Smith*	
School Committee (Elect 2, 3 years)	562
Edward M. Lahey*	
Patricia D. Carlino	587
Planning Board (Elect 1, 5 years)	457
Jill Bickford Groff	
Planning Board (Elect 1, 3 years)	457
Lelf Steinert*	
Board of Health (Elect 1, 3 years)	576
Lester J. Clarke*	
Housing Authority (Elect 1, 5 years)	546
Francis D. Foley Jr.*	
Housing Authority (Elect 1, 4 years)	569
Mary C. Furer*	
Community Development Corp. (Elect 3, 3 years)	
Robin Almgren	365
Anthony L. Caropreso	537
George Kish	320

\* Denotes incumbent.



B8—The Berkshire Eagle, Tuesday, December 9, 1986

## Lee residents question plan for 506 new condominiums

By William J. Carey

LEE — The developer of 506 proposed condominiums off Stockbridge Road got acquainted with about 40 Lee residents last night, but the first public meeting was less than cordial.

Abutters of the proposed development, known as The High Meadows at Lee, branded it "a little Boston" and "the Buzzards Bay of Berkshire County" during a 40-minute informational presentation.

The meeting also gave rise to calls for a building moratorium and a push for affordable housing — the latter being championed by state Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins, D-Lee.

"We're not against development. We're against development that doesn't meet any community need, and this doesn't," said Hodgkins, adding that a commitment to the community would be "making sure those people who are going to be housed need housing."

The developer, Norman Epstein of Lynn, emphasized that his group is seeking input from the town and has made no formal application for the project, which would be the largest condominium development in Berkshire County if built.

Epstein, who was accompanied by Pittsfield Realtor Isidore Goodman, said The High Meadows would be pleasing to the eye and a boon to the

local economy. In a six-page outline made available to town boards this summer, his group estimated tax revenues of \$1.7 million coming from older second-home buyers without children.

The development would include 23 residential buildings with underground parking, a recreational facility with a restaurant and lounge, a 150-car parking garage, outdoor swimming pool and tennis courts. Two-bedroom condominiums have been priced at \$175,000 and three-bedroom units at \$225,000.

The project would be constructed on 128 acres of farmland owned at one time by Russell Burt, whose home is nearby. The property is now owned by a limited partnership known as C-I-M, of which Goodman is general partner. Epstein said a "verbal agreement" still exists between his group and C-I-M to purchase the site.

### 'A campus'

"The effect of the total project — visually — would be that of a campus, all green, all landscaped," Epstein said.

The development would require a special permit from the Selectmen for multifamily dwellings on the property, which is zoned residential-agricultural, and a variance from zoning bylaws restricting buildings to a level of 2½ stories because of the town's firefighting abilities.

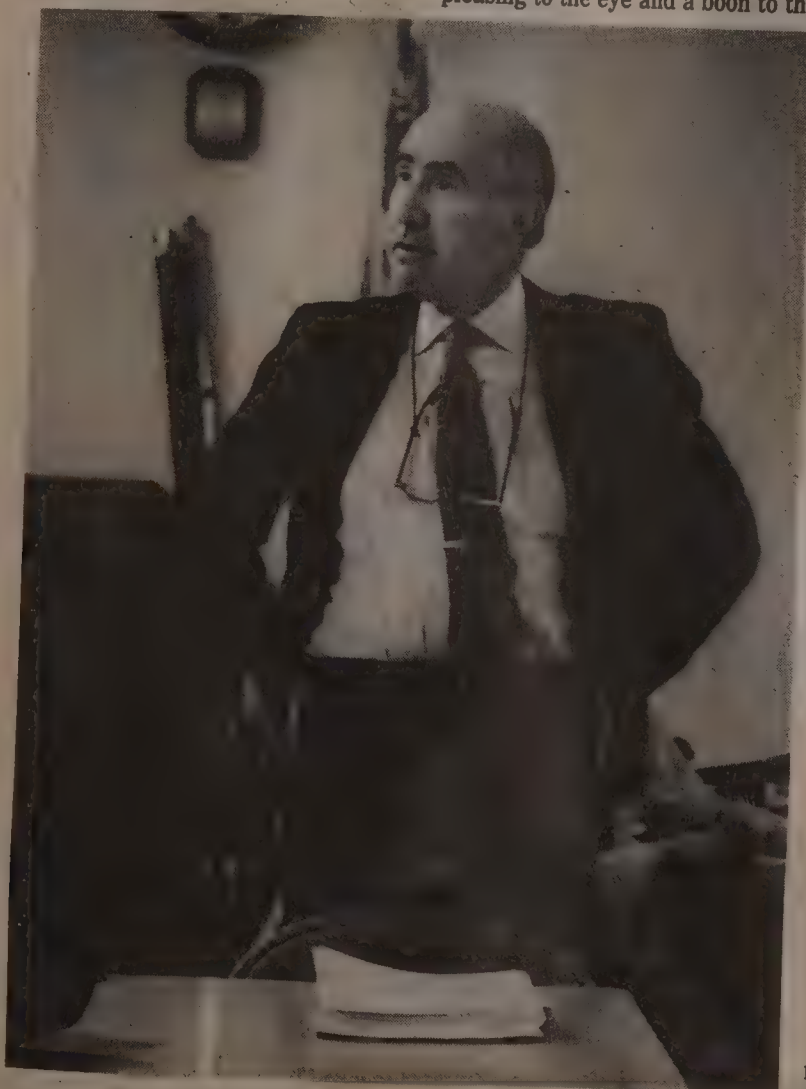
Epstein's group is proposing 3½-story buildings and has offered the town \$250,000 to purchase a new ladder truck.

The developer was vague in his description of the Boston-based investor group, saying only that it comprises "people financially substantial and of good reputation."

In an interview with The Eagle this summer, Epstein said the group is made up of three principals, with two serving as the chief financiers. He described his role as that of a "hired hand" in the planning of the development with "modest equity participation."

### Cites experience

He said he has 35 years' experience in the building of condominiums, rental apartments and offices in the Boston and Cape Cod areas. He formerly was a senior officer with First Realty of Boston and was responsible for the concept and planning of 175 condominiums at Thayer Pond Village in Oxford, a suburb of Worcester, with a company called First Oxford.



William J. Carey

**POTENTIAL DEVELOPER** Norman Epstein met with 40 Lee residents last night on a plan to build a 506-unit condominium development off Stockbridge Road.

*Continued on p. 57.*





William J. Carey

**SPARED FROM DEMOLITION**, the Bradley Street School will be changing sites although the location has not been announced.

## Bradley Street School to move; saved from the wrecking ball

By William J. Carey

**LEE** — The old Bradley Street School will be moving again.

The Greater Lee Chamber of Commerce, which had plans to renovate the 92-year-old building into a conference facility, said this week it has scrapped the idea.

But the object of both ridicule and respect still may be spared from the wrecking ball. Two local men who moved and restored a Laurel Street building under the threat of demolition have been named as potential saviors of the Bradley Street School.

"That is hopefully the plan," said Douglas Howes, who runs Aardenburg Antiques on West Park Street with his partner David Hubregsen. "We are trying to move it."

Howes said the one-story, one-room schoolhouse will be moved "as expeditiously as possible" from its present spot across from the post office once a new home is confirmed. He declined to specify a location until the details are worked out.

The school was established in the 1860s and rebuilt in 1894, according to Florence Consolati, whose book "See All The People" details the history of Lee.

### Once a fixture

Once a fixture of Bradley Street, the school was phased out in 1977 and targeted for demolition five years ago. A group of local residents calling itself the "Bradley Bunch" purchased the structure for \$1 and paid \$3,000 to have it uprooted and replaced on town-owned land off Eaton Street.

The money came from members of Fern Cliff Associates, a historical society, and from local contributions and fund-raisers. Under the auspices of the historical group, the school was given a new roof and windows.

Though cherished by some, it became an eyesore for others disturbed by the pace of renovations and the condition of the site. Now the schoolhouse, begging for a new coat of paint, stands in the way of a long-anticipated renovation of the Railroad Street-Eaton Street area.

In a September report to the Selectmen, the Traffic Commission recommended "that the old Bradley Street School be made presentable for use or removed from this location and the land used for public parking."

This week, the Chamber of Commerce informed the Selectmen that it had scrapped its plans for a conference facility in the schoolhouse. The decision was made by virtue of a 4-3 vote of the chamber's board of directors, with President Douglas Wilcox casting the deciding vote to break a 3-3 stalemate.

### Lack of support

"A variety of reasons prompted this decision, including the expense of such a project, as well as the general lack of support from the chamber members at large and a perceived lack of support from the Board of Selectmen and the Lee traffic committee," wrote Dani J. Holmes, chairman of the chamber's Bradley Street School Committee.

The chamber had estimated that \$15,000-\$20,000 would have been needed to renovate the building into a conference facility with men's and women's restrooms, Holmes said later. Had the chamber gone ahead with its plans, it would have purchased the building from Fern Cliff Associates and negotiated a lease agreement for the plot of land with the town, he said.

"It boiled down to: Why should we spend the \$20,000 when we can spend a couple hundred dollars to rent office space elsewhere?" Holmes said.

The Selectmen viewed the decision as the resolution of a longstanding problem. They advised the school's guardians to present a timetable for its removal.

Francis D. Foley, a town meeting member, suggested that the Bradley Street School be used as a training facility for the Volunteer Fire Department.

Consolati disagreed.

"I definitely think it should be saved," she said. "The people that rebuilt that school in 1894 so loved it that they built it in the style of the original school. We're lucky to have it."



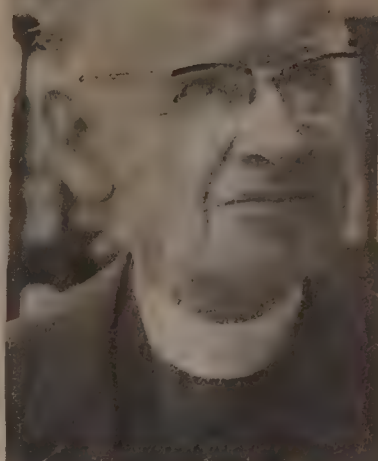


Leslie Harrison

**TRACKING DOG** is brought into last night's hunt for two jail escapees by Trooper Neil Raymond from Lee. Dog, named Saber, was one of two German shepherds used in search.

B2 — The Berkshire Eagle, Thursday, May 21, 1987

## Obituaries and F



Rev. Joseph F. Gagan

### Rev. Joseph F. Gagan, retired Lee pastor

**LEE** — The Rev. Joseph F. Gagan, 85, retired pastor of St. Mary's Church here and St. Mary of the Lakes Church in Otis, and former pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Cheshire, died Tuesday at Heritage Hall Nursing Home in Agawam after a long illness.

Born in Worcester Sept. 21, 1901, son of James and Bridget Naughton Gagan, he graduated from St. John's High School in Worcester in 1921, Holy Cross College in 1925, and St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore in 1929.

Father Gagan was ordained a priest May 25, 1929, at St. Michael's Cathedral in Springfield by Bishop Thomas M. O'Leary. He served as assistant pastor at St. Mary's Church in Turners Falls from 1929 to 1935; at Immaculate Conception Church in Easthampton from 1935 to 1949, and at Holy Rosary Church in Holyoke from 1949 to 1953. He was appointed pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Cheshire, serving until 1955, and at St. Thomas' Church in Huntington from 1955 to 1963 and, finally, at St. Mary's Church in Lee from 1963 to May 1, 1977, when he retired.

He leaves a sister, Miss Winifred G. Gagan of Worcester.

The funeral will be at St. Mary's Church here with a Mass of the High Priests tonight at 7:30. A Liturgy of Christian Burial will be celebrated tomorrow at 10 a.m. Burial will be in St. John's Cemetery in Worcester. Father Gagan will lie in state today from 2 to 4 in St. Mary's Church.

Kelly Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

## Lee delegates OK \$9,000 for town hall study

By William J. Carey

**LEE** — Town meeting representatives last week approved \$9,000 for a study of renovating the Civil War Memorial Town Hall, but only after questioning the intentions of its chief tenant, the Southern Berkshire District Court.

Recently, the court's twice-a-week sessions in Lee were cut in half due to a statewide shortage of judges. That did nothing to diminish the fear that district court sessions will be moved permanently to Great Barrington, where the quarters are modern and attractive.

To avoid that fate, a committee of public officials and private citizens met for several months to assess the condition of Memorial Hall. They found the 113-year-old building "deteriorating" and inaccessible to the handicapped.

The court's judges, they said, "are quite dissatisfied."

The first floor of the building is shared by the court, probation office, town clerk and assessors. The second floor has been mothballed since the majority of town departments moved to the Alroidi Building in late 1981.

In the basement are the police

Attorney Henry M. Donahoe, who served on the committee, likened the situation to a lottery slogan. "If you don't get in it, you can't win it," he said. "If we don't get in there and play, we're going to lose it by default."

Donahoe said state Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins, D-Lee, has as-

### Austen Riggs opens exhibit of crafts

**STOCKBRIDGE** — Austen Riggs Center has opened an exhibition of craft works by students and staff at the Lavender Door, Main Street.

The exhibition of wood, pottery, ceramics and photography will continue daily from 2 to 5 until May 26.



sured him that the Legislature will not take action to have the court moved.

Town Clerk John J. Nagle urged representatives to consider the other tenants of the building.

"If the court leaves and I stay, you're still going to have to figure out how the handicapped are going to get up those steps to my office," he said.

Morgan House owner William Orford, another member of the committee, and Finance Committee Chairman Dayton DeLorme told the representatives to consider the renovation not just for the court, but for the consolidation of town services. Orford said emergency departments in the town are "at the edge" in their present quarters.



# Betsy Dovydenas: 'I'm just like anybody else'

By Daniel T. Keating

LENEX — Her millions have made her one of the most talked about people in the Berkshires. But if you were trying to pick out the multi-millionaire at a party, you would never pick Betsy Dovydenas.

Anyone expecting a haughty, blue-blood society woman would be fooled by her unpretentious Midwestern style. No Mercedes-Benz or even a Saab turbo for the 34-year-old mother of two. She finds her Chrysler minivan much more practical. Her husband drives a pickup truck.

Her full name is Elizabeth Dayton Dovydenas. Everyone calls her Betsy. The Dayton part is where the money comes from — a prominent Minneapolis retailing family with a fortune of at least a few hundred million dollars. The Dovydenas part comes from her husband of 8½ years, Jonas, 48, a free-lance photographer from Lithuania.

\* \* \*

Betsy Dovydenas has been cast in the limelight by her attempt to get back \$6.6 million she gave to The Bible Speaks. But she hates labels like "heiress" that she says the press uses to make the controversy "juicy."

"You don't have to put a name — there's no name for me. I'm just a person," she said in a recent interview at The Eagle.

She denounced the characterization used in court and the press that she is an over-dependent and affection-starved woman who could not resist what she has called "love bombing" by The Bible Speaks.

"The reasons for my getting involved with The Bible Speaks are enormously complex," she said. "There are no simple five things."

On the topic of dependence, Dovydenas responded boldly.

"It's hogwash. People are much more complicated than to say, 'Oh, I'm a dependent person,' or 'Oh, I'm an independent person.'"

She offered one way of describing herself.

"I'm not frightened about things that are different. If I'd been awfully worried about being a certain kind of person, I wouldn't have gone to a group like The Bible Speaks."

One thing that Dovydenas feels the press has not reported and the public misunderstands is why she brought the lawsuit. Replacing every penny of her fortune is not her prime interest, she says.

"Once I figured out what had happened to me at The Bible Speaks, I would sure like to save other people from having to go through that. So many people have been hurt by The Bible Speaks."

"I know that for people who have been hurt by The Bible Speaks, my lawsuit means a lot to them. And I know it means a lot to parents who have children there. Maybe they'll see their children again someday. You never know — they might."

Asked about the money specifically, she responded simply, "Carl Stevens doesn't deserve to have it. All



Jonas Dovydenas

Betsy Dovydenas

Joel Liborizzi

he did was trick me to get it."

She said putting her life together since leaving the church has not always been easy.

"I go to church sometimes," she said, adding that she goes to a variety of churches. "I like going, but I don't go very often. It's painful."

"I love to hear the Bible read, but all of those Scriptures were used to hurt me. They did a whole little number in my head . . . so it [listening to the Scriptures] is incredibly painful. Prayer was used to hurt me. It's painful to pray."

"And it's also for those reasons why I'm suing," she added. "It is so sickening to abuse someone's faith in God, to use Jesus to get money out of someone. I'll get over it, and I'll be able to read the Bible someday, and I'll be able to pray someday and not worry about that. But it's such a sickening thing for a person to do that. I would sure like people to be forewarned."

When she was asked about her current churchgoing habits, she laughed.

"Well, I leave my purse at home when I go," she said.

Dovydenas said she feels her two years in the church, the near destruction of her marriage, her emotional departure from The Bible Speaks engineered by her family and the trial have made her stronger.

"It was such a dreadful thing to go through. It was so terrifying to be so used, so taken advantage of, and to be manipulated into doing things," she said. "So I know more about what kind of a person I am. I know that if someone wants to hypnotize me, if I'm not aware, I'm gone. Some people are easy to hypnotize, and I'm one of them."

"Now I know why I've always been terrified at scary movies. I just freak out at scary movies."

Dovydenas went on, laughing.

"Oh, I go crazy. I plug my ears and close my eyes. Jonas has always told me, 'Betsy, it's just a movie. Relax.' But now I know why that happens."

She feels she will be harder to manipulate in the fu-

ture, not because she is less vulnerable, but because she is aware of her vulnerability.

"I know that it can happen to me," said Dovydenas, a graduate of the University of Minnesota who has an IQ of 120. "I'm such a polite person that I have to really make an effort to protect myself. To me, that feels very aggressive."

\* \* \*

"When people call on the phone, I used to buy these lightbulbs from these crippled people and none of them worked. They just don't work. And every year they would call and get me to buy \$60 more of them, and they just don't work."

"So it's easier for me if I just hand the phone to Jonas."

Even after leaving The Bible Speaks, Dovydenas said, she does not find it easy to characterize the people still in the church.

"It's very hard to know, for someone who's in a group like that, how coldhearted they [the church's leaders] are, if [people] are just tricked like I was. I did things I wouldn't otherwise have done, but I didn't go over the edge. I hadn't gone over the edge to being devious," she said.

When reminded that she lied to her father and husband, set up a secret post office box and went through Jonas Dovydenas's mail, she acknowledged that she had indeed been devious.

"But it wasn't on my own initiative. I think there's a line when you're in a group like that. When you cross you become . . ."

"An instigator," suggested her attorney, Eric R. Dannemaler, who was present at the interview, as was her husband.

"Yes. I was only doing what I was told to do, and I felt badly. I felt so awful when I lied for The Bible Speaks. I felt terrible."

Having put the church behind her, Dovydenas said she plans to return to the interests she had before joining. She will resume painting and bookbinding at her home, the Pine Needles estate on Under Mountain Road. In the garage, Jonas Dovydenas is building an airplane. His photography has ranged from commercial work to documenting the Afghanistan guerrilla war to a book on Chicago homes.

Betsy Dovydenas may try to regain the privacy Lenox provided before her involvement with The Bible Speaks. The youngest of four daughters, she moved away from Minneapolis, where her sister testified the Daytons were "always aware that we were a prominent family. People were watching us."

Dovydenas does not like being in the public eye. Her desire for privacy is not because she is so different, she said, but because "there's nothing unusual about my life."

"I have nothing to hide," said Dovydenas. "My life is very average . . . except that I have more money than a lot of people do. But otherwise, I'm just like anybody else."



# The Berkshire Eagle

## Marketplace

Saturday, May 23, 1987



**BAGEL AFICIONADOS** can now buy what are described as New York-quality bagels, as well as related specialties, at Bagels, too, which opened Monday at 166 North St. Owners are Donna M. Bills, left, and Susan J. Gordon.

Joel Librizzi

## Urban bagels come to North St.

By Robert J. Powell

Bagels, too — a new specialty restaurant — has opened at 166 North St., serving freshly made bagels, cream cheese spreads, bialys and bagelwiches.

A bialy, according to the two proprietors of the shop, Susan J. Gordon and Donna M. Bills, is a Jewish roll with onions, while a bagelwich is a sandwich that uses sliced bagels instead of sliced bread and might contain, for instance, Norwegian lox and cream cheese or a hot dog.

### Bagel deficiency seen

The notion to open a store that sold bagels began in November 1985, when Bills and Gordon, both Pittsfield residents, noticed they couldn't buy freshly made New York-quality bagels in the Berkshires.

In January, Gordon, who owns Your Kitchen at 170 North St., was asked by the building's owner, Floyd Passardi, if she was interested in expanding her business into the 1,700-square-foot space once occupied by Kanter Studio.

Instead of expanding her kitchen supply store, Gordon decided to act on her and Bills' bagel-making idea, and the 24-seat bagel establishment was on its way.

"We got on our hands and knees and ladders and began renovating," said Bills.

In January, Gordon and Bills, who is a laboratory director at Berkshire Pathology Services Inc. at 510 North St., began looking for bagel-making machines at industrial baking equipment trade shows.

By April, they had bought more than \$100,000 worth of equipment, including a dough mixer that holds 200 pounds of dough, a sophisticated rack-type oven that steams and bakes bagels at a temperature of 500 degrees, and a machine called a bagel former that rolls bagels into a doughnut shape.

Later, Bills and Gordon traveled to the Rainbow Bakery in Cranston, R.I., to learn how to make bagels.

Why Cranston and not New York?

The equipment's distributor sends its customers to the Rhode Island company for bagel-making classes, said Bills. "People say you can't get good bagels unless you're in New York, but Cranston bagels were equal to New York," said Bills.

Now Bills and Gordon plan to make the bagels equal in quality to Cranston's and New York's and sell their product retail as well as wholesale.

### High-technology process

As for bagel making, it has become as complicated as any high-technology business.

Bills said that in the past, uncooked bagels were dropped in kettles of boiling water and scooped out after a few minutes, then placed on bagel boards that were put on rotating shelves in an oven. But the old way of making bagels was labor intensive and energy inefficient, she said.

Now, 200 pounds of dough is made and placed in the mixer. From there, the dough is placed in a machine that cuts and forms the uncooked mixture into bagel shapes, complete with the hole in the middle.

The bagels are then placed on racks and put into a humidity- and temperature-controlled oven called a proof box, where the dough rises for 20 minutes.

Then the bagels are placed in a walk-in refrigerator called a retarder and the following morning are put back into the proof box. The bagels are baked in a sophisticated oven that was designed in Italy and is manufactured in Spain.

Within 15 minutes, the oven cooks more than 800 bagels at a time using steam and heat, Bills said.

Various kinds of bagels are sold for 30 cents apiece without condiments.

Prices for bagelwiches, including bagel dogs and pizza bagels, range from 55 cents to \$4.

The store is open Monday through Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.



# Body found in Lee; murder feared

By William J. Carey

LEE — Murder is suspected in the death of an unidentified young man whose body was found yesterday morning at the bottom of a river bank off Tyringham Road.

"At this point, the death is being treated as suspicious," said Frederick A. Lantz, a spokesman for the Berkshire County district attorney's office. He said the exact cause of death had not been determined as of late yesterday afternoon.

The body was discovered by two employees of the state Department of Public Works on a grassy bank of the Housatonic River directly opposite the Cold Spring, which is used by residents for drinking wa-

ter. The area is less than a mile south of the entrance to the Massachusetts Turnpike.

The workers, who asked not to be identified, said they visited the spring at 8:10 a.m. to fill water jugs prior to beginning their job of street-sweeping along Route 102. Walking to the side of the road, one of the workers saw "a pair of sneakers and blue jeans" in the brush near the river.

"The body was all twisted up," observed the second worker.

The two said the man, who was white, appeared to be in his mid-20s, had a mustache and was clad in a white T-shirt and blue jeans. They reported the find to their super-

visor, Robert E. Hood, who notified police.

A tree service crew was in the area at the same time but did not see the body, according to the workers.

Medical Examiner Donald E. Campbell of Stockbridge, who responded to the scene, said the man apparently had been dead for six to eight hours and was lying on his back with his legs flexed beneath him. There were no visible injuries or broken bones.

Campbell said the man had tattoos on his chest and both arms. The tattoo on the left forearm spelled the name "James."

The body was taken by the Kelly

Funeral Home to Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield, where an autopsy to determine the cause of death was performed in the afternoon by associate State Medical Examiner Thomas Smith.

Results of that autopsy were not available last night.

Several hours after the discovery, Lee police and investigators from the district attorney's Crime Prevention and Control Unit were still combing the site, which is just below a turnout for the spring.

Cardboard beer cases, old stumps, plastic jugs, bottles and other debris were strewn about in the grass.



COMBING THE SCENE off Tyringham Road in Lee, where an unidentified young man was found dead yesterday, are Lee Police Officers John Farina, left, and Henry Smachetti. The body had already been removed when the photo was taken.

## CORRECTIONS

A May 16 story on the wedding of Miss Anita L. DiMashe and John J. Hencke gave the bride's address incorrectly. It should have been 8560 West Peoria Ave., Peoria, Ariz. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis L. DiMashe, former Pittsfield residents, live at 9603 West El Caminito Drive, Peoria. Their address was omitted from the story.

The Berkshire Eagle in Pittsfield and the Register Citizen in Torrington, Conn., are both publications of The Eagle Publishing Co., which was identified incorrectly in yesterday's Eagle.

Back-stage tours offered Saturday, June 13, from 11 to 3 as part of Discover Your Berkshires Week will include one at Shakespeare & Company at The Mount in Lenox. This was omitted from a story in yesterday's Eagle.

A pre-graduation party last Friday for the Berkshire School was closed at 2 a.m. following an earlier visit by police. The hosts, William and Carol Gray of 120 Kemble St., Lenox, were present for the party along with about 40 adults. Car keys were taken at the door to prevent younger motorists from driving late at night.

The name of Christopher G. Resnik, 10 Sergeant St., Stockbridge, a patient at Hillcrest Hospital, was spelled incorrectly in yesterday's Eagle.

## Body discovered in Lee is identified

By William J. Carey

LEE — The body of a man found Wednesday off Tyringham Road has been identified as that of Anthony J. DiCarlo, 29, of Pittsfield, who had been "on the run" from local authorities because of a feared violation of his probation.

### Cause undetermined

The exact cause of death had not been determined as of late yesterday afternoon. Frederick A. Lantz, a spokesman for the Berkshire County district attorney's office, said the death is being treated as "suspicious" because of the circumstances under which the body was found.

That designation, he said, does not suggest DiCarlo was murdered.

At the time of his death, DiCarlo, 29, had been living with his girlfriend and her daughter on the second floor of a three-story brick apartment building at 297 Columbus Ave. His girlfriend said he moved there in April, fearful that an argument at a Pittsfield bar had broken his probation for keeping

rented videotapes.

DiCarlo failed to show for a restitution hearing Monday in Lee District Court on a similar conviction. He had a record for theft, larceny, assault and other crimes dating back to 1974.

The body was discovered by two state workers early Wednesday on a grassy bank of the Housatonic River directly across from the Cold Spring, which is used for drinking water. The area is less than a mile south of the entrance to the Massachusetts Turnpike.

Medical Examiner Donald E. Campbell of Stockbridge, who responded to the scene, said DiCarlo had been dead for six to eight hours and was lying on his back with his legs flexed behind him. He was fully clothed in a T-shirt and blue jeans and had no visible injuries.

### Autopsy conducted

An autopsy was conducted later that day at Berkshire Medical Center, and the results are pending, Lantz said. The autopsy was performed by state Medical Examiner Thomas Smith.

The investigation is headed by Cpl. Robert J. Bradley of the district attorney's Crime Prevention and Control unit.

According to one of his brothers, DiCarlo attended Crosby Junior High and worked for a time with Donovan Construction Co. of Pittsfield. Harry Donovan, president and treasurer of the company, remembered him as a "good worker" who

served for a summer on a black-topping crew.

His girlfriend, Sheila Flynn, said that DiCarlo, who was divorced, had moved in with her out of fear that an argument broken up by police at the Cellar on North Street would land him in prison for violating his probation.

### Anthony J. DiCarlo

Anthony J. DiCarlo, 29, of Pittsfield was found dead Wednesday in Lee. The cause of death is under investigation.

He was born in Pittsfield, July 1957, the son of Ann Mattoon DiCarlo and the late Amitio J. DiCarlo, and was educated in local schools.

Besides his mother, of Pittsfield, he leaves a son, James V. DiCarlo of Florida; two daughters, Miss Angela DiCarlo and Miss Amanda DiCarlo, both of Pittsfield; two sisters, Ms. Carol Verchot and Ms. Josephine Williams, both of Pittsfield; six brothers, Donald E. DiCarlo of Stephentown, N.Y., Amitio DiCarlo of Lanesboro, John DiCarlo of Richmond and David DiCarlo, William DiCarlo and Thomas DiCarlo, all of Pittsfield.

A private funeral will be held today. Burial will be in St. Joseph's Cemetery. There are no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Mr. DiCarlo's memory to the Key Program in care of Dery Funeral Home, 54 Bradford St., Pittsfield.





Leslie Harrison

### Class of '37

Lee High School class of 1937 gathered for its 50th reunion Saturday at the Stanley Club in Pittsfield. In front, from left, are Eileen Boyne Drew, Mary Salinetti Consolati, Margret Mahan Ploughman, Gladys Messina DiMario, Mary Avanzato Pizzi, Justine Baldisserotto Romeo, Doris Hunt Carmel, Winifred Hobday Paladino, Rose Sires Brown, Gladys Carty Ab-

derhalden and Mildred Barton Navin. In rear are Harold Parker, Norman Potter, Angelo Sorrentino, Curtis Ambler, Frank Jaouen, Bruce Andrews, Evelyn Carrington Fletcher, Robert E. Moore, Rita Kearin LePrevost, William Dunn, Dorothy Wright Trufant and Mary Toolan L'Heureux. Members of the class of 1927 also met at the Stanley Club Saturday night.



Leslie Harrison

### Class of 1927

Five members of the Lee High School class of 1927 gathered Saturday night at the Stanley Club in Pittsfield for their 60th reunion. From left are Linda Adams Boyden, Santina Guristante Spadafora, class president James Brown, Grace Dennis and Frank Consolati.



# County's only first assistant DA switching to Pittsfield law firm

By Daniel T. Keating

Daniel A. Ford — the only first assistant district attorney Berkshire County has ever had — is leaving that post tomorrow to go into private practice.

Ford, 37, has been the primary prosecution trial lawyer for the county since January 1979, when Berkshire County first obtained a district attorney's office of its own. Before then, Superior Court prosecution in the county was handled by assistant district attorneys attached to the Springfield district attorney's office.

Ford took over as first assistant district attorney after serving as campaign manager for Anthony J. Ruberto Jr., who won election as the county's first district attorney.

Ford announced yesterday that he is joining Berkshire County's largest law firm, Cain, Hibbard, Myers & Cook of Pittsfield, to practice corporate and business litigation. He will be hired in the capacity of "of counsel," putting him between associates in the firm and partners.

## Two succeed him

Replacing Ford in the district attorney's office will be Second Assistant District Attorney Lee Diane Flournoy and Assistant District Attorney Robert J. Carnes. They will divide the work that she and Ford have been handling, according to Ruberto. Neither will have the title



Daniel A. Ford  
Time for a change

of first or second assistant district attorney, he said.

Ruberto said Flournoy will specialize in handling sexual assault cases and managing the Berkshire Superior Court trial list, while Carnes will oversee the grand jury and the county-wide drug task force.

Ford said he is leaving for the opportunity to do new things rather than because of any discontent with his job.

"There comes a time when you

have to make a change," he said. "For me, that time is now. I guess what is important is to leave while the bloom is on the rose — I'm not miserable. I'm not unhappy. I have a wonderful opportunity and I'm looking forward to it."

## European trip

Ford said he will be traveling through Europe for most of the summer before starting work at Cain, Hibbard in August.

"I'll relax and do all the things I haven't had time to do the past 8½ years," he said.

An alumnus of Pittsfield High School, Ford graduated from Notre Dame University and Boston College Law School.

"Dan Ford and I have been together in the district attorney's office for the past 8½ years," said Ruberto. "To say he'll be missed is an understatement. But, even though Dan is moving on, a part of him will remain in the district attorney's office. He set the standards for quality, professionalism and perfection. Dan and I have been friends for more than 10 years and I trust that friendship will continue well into the 21st century."

Flournoy has been in the district attorney's office since 1979. She has handled Superior Court prosecution with Ford for the past few years. Carnes, an assistant district attorney since 1982, has tried cases in every court in the county.

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B8—The Berkshire Eagle, Wednesday, June 17, 1987



Derek Gentile

**ARCHIVISTS** Pauline Pierce, left, and Susan Kaufman have collaborated on a booklet listing the historical letters, publications, manuscripts, photographs and other reference materials available in the Historical Room at the Stockbridge Library.

## Stockbridge archivists catalog a library's lore

By Derek Gentile

**STOCKBRIDGE** — To almost anyone but archivist Susan Kaufman, sorting out the faded manuscripts and dusty volumes in the basement of the Stockbridge Library would be one of those chores best put off until later — much later.

But Kaufman gladly spent six months with library Historical Room curator Pauline D. Pierce cataloging the letters, manuscripts, deeds, legal documents, account books, old newspapers and scrapbooks of the people who have made Stockbridge Stockbridge for the past 300 years.

The result of their efforts is a thin but detailed booklet listing the library's collection of local institutional and family writings, as well as an inventory of special collections that includes oral history tapes, cookbooks, maps, periodicals and photographs. The booklet is 38 pages long. The complete collection it catalogs fills two rooms and an airtight vault.

### Labor of love

"Polly and I are both in love with this kind of thing," Kaufman said. "We sort of represent a constituency of people who are fascinated by original source material and history."

Kaufman is a native New Yorker who moved to the Berkshires several years ago. She received her archival training at the State University of New York.

In 1981, funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, she compiled a complete list of the theatrical and musical collections in the county for the Stockbridge Library. When she had completed that, Pierce said, she expressed an interest in doing a similar project involving the Historical Room. Lack of funds put that project off until last year, when Pierce in-

duced several private local contributors to donate the money.

The family collections vary in size from a few small boxes containing personal papers and letters by 19th century photography pioneer Anson Clark to a voluminous set of material spanning several generations and three centuries representing the efforts of the Sedgwicks, who had several authors in the family.

Kaufman said Grace Wilcox, the first curator of the Historical Room, compiled a card catalog listing the manuscripts and printed material available. The card catalog is routinely updated by Pierce.

The booklet, a condensed version of the card catalog, "can be used by everyone from genealogists looking up their great grandmother's family tree to people doing very fancy graduate research in history," said Kaufman.

And not just local history, either. Pierce said that included in the inventory, for example, are 18th century deeds of land from the Stockbridge Indians to settlers, as well as the scrapbooks of 19th century Supreme Court Justice Stephen Johnson Field and correspondence from artist Norman Rockwell.

### 'Unique, irreplaceable'

"A lot of what is here is unique, irreplaceable," said Kaufman. "The Sedgwick women, for example, traveled extensively and have a number of charming scrapbooks here, with watercolors, photos and letters. They're not scrapbooks as we know scrapbooks, and they are really interesting to look at."

The booklet, which has been mailed to a number of local and national historical societies and libraries, can be obtained by contacting Pierce.





Joel Librizzi

**HIGH-WIRE ACT** Utility company employees use poles to keep overhead lines.

## A moving experience

### Bradley Street School takes a ride around town

By Ellen G. Lahr

**LEE** — Inch by slow inch and hour by hour, a team of burly house movers carefully guided the historic Bradley Street School on a five-mile journey from Eaton Street to its new location on Route 20 in East Lee, halting traffic and amusing onlookers on the way.

The old school has already survived one move from its original location on Bradley Street to Eaton Street. Yesterday, the school rode agreeably up West Park Street, left on Marble and down Route 102 to Route 20, on a giant steel trailer pulled by a mammoth truck from Hallomore Motor Transport Co., the Windsor Locks, Conn., subcontractor for the job.

#### Oscar at the wheel

A titanic fellow named Oscar Hills was at the wheel of the cab, wearing a baby-blue T-shirt, chomping a fat cigar and switching from his Budweiser cap to his Hallomore company cap when photographers aimed his way.

An entourage of employees from New England Telephone, Northeast Utilities and Berkshire Cable Co. of Lee led the way on foot and followed alongside. They wore helmets and suntans and carried long hooked poles they used to raise utility lines that hung too low for the passing schoolhouse.

Ahead of the schoolhouse, a phalanx of utility employees and heavily equipped trucks from New England Telephone and Northeast Utilities temporarily removed lines that were too low to raise up. Using mechanical hooks, they raised lines that were too high for the men on foot.

Harold Letsky, owner of Morris Housemovers Inc. of Morris, Conn., the contractor, followed behind the trailer in his black coupe.

Douglas Howes and David Hubregsen of Lee, the

owners of the building, followed on foot, snapping pictures and helping out when necessary. Howes and Hubregsen bought the school for \$1 from a group of local residents that formed 10 years ago to salvage the school after it closed in 1977. "The Bradley Bunch" collaborated with the Fern Cliff Association group and raised \$8,000 to move the school from Bradley to Eaton Street. They hoped to turn the school into a museum.

When plans for the museum crumbled, the Greater Lee Chamber of Commerce proposed turning the old school into a conference facility. That plan also fell through, and the Traffic Commission urged the Selectmen last fall to have the deteriorating building restored to a "presentable" condition or removed from the site.

Howes and Hubregsen, owners of Aardenburg Antiques on West Park Street, bought the former school and agreed to move it to property they own in East Lee, where they intend to restore it and rent it as a house. Letsky said the moving job cost approximately \$5,800.

#### Ready for anything

The movers were prepared for any possible hitch in the job. A pickup truck followed with a load of posts, which were placed under the trailer wheels when the house got hung up on a guardrail near the intersection of Route 102 and Marble Street.

Some trees along Marble Street posed minor problems for the passing house-to-be. Usually workers were able to raise the branches with the hooks, but some got caught under the roof and pulled up the shingles. Hubregsen said the roof would be easily repaired.

Yesterday's trip took approximately five hours, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The building was left overnight on hydraulic jacks and today will be lowered onto its foundation, which is next to the Candlelight Apartments, also owned by Howes and Hubregsen.





Erik Bruun

**DIGGING IN** at ceremony celebrating the completion of the first phase of the beautification of Housatonic Street in Lee is Kitty Dukakis, wife of Gov. Michael S. Dukakis.

## ***Kitty Dukakis visits Lee, helps in planting of a tree***

LEE — Armed with golden shovels and hard hats, Kitty Dukakis and a host of state officials and residents threw dirt on the last maple tree planted in the Housatonic Street beautification project.

The 11 o'clock ceremony in front of Pilgrim Motor Inn marked the end of the first phase of a state and town effort to improve the appearance of Housatonic Street.

Dukakis, wife of Gov. Michael S. Dukakis, hailed the first phase as a success and vowed to support efforts to construct a wooden post-and-rail fence along the road to make the thoroughfare more attractive.

### **Fence yet to be built**

The state Department of Public Works provided 35 trees for the project. Bruce Garlow, aide to state Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins, D-Lee, said efforts were underway to convince Lee businessmen and the Lee Chamber of Commerce to construct the fence.

The project was undertaken by Hodgkins, Dukakis, state Sen. Peter C. Webber, R-Pittsfield, the DPW and townspeople to beautify the street. Motorists exiting the state turnpike must drive on to Housatonic Street, which is occupied by several motels, fast-food restaurants and gas stations. Dukakis described the road as the "gateway" of the Berkshires.

Graduate students from the University of Massachusetts studied the road and designed a landscaping plan to plant trees and build fences to create a corridor effect that conveys the ambiance of the Berkshires.

English News 20 1987



# 48. Populations of wild animals shifting with change of county environment

By Erik Bruun

Last week, a black bear was spotted standing upright in the golf course at Berkshire Hills Country Club.

Earlier this spring, coyotes were seen along Hubbard Avenue.

And last fall, 10 or more moose were sighted in Berkshire County — twice the normal number seen in the autumn.

With the change of environment in the Berkshires, the character of wildlife and the populations of many animals are changing.

Thomas P. Keefe, district manager for the state Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, said some animals are increasing in population for various reasons. Although the change has not been sudden or dramatic, he said he expects the trend to continue.

The number of sightings of animals such as bears, coyotes and wild turkey has increased, Keefe said.

## Less habitat

Marilyn Flor, a naturalist at Pleasant Valley Sanctuary in Lenox, said sightings of animals may have increased because there is less undeveloped land for animals to roam free.

"There is much less habitat and there's less room to move," Flor said. "Habitat is being lost left and right."

Keefe said black bears used to be mainly restricted to the Berkshire hilltowns. But recently bears have been found farther east and west of the relatively isolated towns, he said. The population of the bears may have increased, Keefe said, and they are searching for other areas to live.

Bears, he said, are often difficult to spot because they have a keen sense of smell and hearing and will hide or move if they spot people. Most sightings of bears are made by motorists who see them crossing roads, Keefe said.

Coyotes are a recent addition to county wildlife, he said. The first coyotes were seen in the 1950s and the number of sightings has increased since then.

"Coyotes are very adaptable to man's habitat," Keefe said. "They are scavengers and they're the

largest canine predator."

The number of coyotes in the county probably has not reached its peak because there is still potential range available for coyotes, Keefe said.

## Moose just visitors

Although there were more moose spotted than usual in the Berkshires last fall, Keefe said moose do not live year-round in the county. During the fall, he said, young males roam south from Vermont into Massachusetts. They have been seen as far south as Connecticut and Rhode Island.

Normally four or five moose are seen each fall, Keefe said. The jump to 10 or more last fall may have been due to an increase in population further north, he said.

The introduction of wild turkeys into the Berkshires in the early 1970s has been very successful, Keefe said. Wild turkeys have thrived in forested areas that are near fields. In the mid-19th century when there was much more farmland in the county, wild turkeys were driven to extinction in western Massachusetts.

But with the gradual loss of farmland in the last 100 years, the habitat

has become more suited for wild turkeys, Keefe said.

The decline of farmland, however, has hurt other types of animals such as red-shouldered hawks which like big trees and open fields to hunt in, Flor said.

The growth of new forests has also not helped the populations of animals like raccoons and some types of woodpeckers that need old trees, Flor said.

Red-tailed hawks, on the other hand, have thrived in the new forests because they prefer to live in the woods, Flor said.



Susan Andersen, right, outlined the history of her Alford farmhouse to a gathering of the Great Barrington Historical Society on

July 15. Standing beside her is Milton Stevens.

Donald B. Victor

Simon 7/23, 87



# Rocks reshape a slope

By William Carey

TYRINGHAM

If Road Superintendent Richard O. Loring found himself between a rock and a hard place, he'd take the rock.

"I have a thing about rocks," said Loring, who has presided over Tyingham's roads for a total of 15 years. "I feel every one has its place. After all, the good Lord put them here."

He has found a useful place for them on property he inherited on Church Road from his father in 1958. The lawn had a steep bank dropping from the level of the town cemetery, which lies across the street, to Main Road below. Loring and his wife, Dorothy, kept horses on the property until their three children were grown. When the horses went, it became a menace to cut the grass.

"At this point," he recalls, "I knew I had to do something."

Five summers ago, he began planting shrubbery and placing rocks in the area closest to the house, while Dorothy filled the empty spaces with an impressive array of multicolored perennials.

The result, still unfinished, is a three-tiered, Oriental-styled garden with an estimated 1,200 rocks, wooden night lights and flourishes of foxglove, spiderwort, Jacob's ladder, black-eyed Susan, bleeding heart and yucca, among other plants.

Most of the rocks came from local road projects and from farmers who were only too pleased to be rid of them. They were hauled to the bank via bulldozer and fitted, like puzzle pieces, during Loring's so-called "relaxation" periods. Helping him to relax was Henning C. Carlson of Main Road, who has a similar fascination with rocks.

The two men have an exchange agreement for each other's spare time in the building of rock structures on their property. Loring also lays stone walls on a part-time basis with his son, Ricky.

In his garden, Loring has some obvious favorites. One of his rocks,



William Carey

Tyingham Road Superintendent Richard O. Loring and his wife, Dorothy, on the rocks at their Church Road home. Couple have been reconstructing bank for five years.

most probably a chunk of sandstone, has the grainy appearance of wooden particle board. Another is shaped like a crouching frog with a broken leg — the result, he said, of an accidental fall. (He plans to repair the leg using steel pins and cement.)

A third rock, weighing about 5 tons, was taken from a road-widening project near Goose Pond and has the feeling of a large marble slab. A fourth has a bluish hue and was carved, Loring believes, from water.

Beyond their sentimental value, Dorothy Loring said the rocks absorb the summertime heat, maintaining a favorable temperature for her plants. Pruning is a seven-day task with a simple solution.

"Basically," she said, "if you keep the garden full, there's no place for the weeds to grow."

Richard Loring is in the process of laying underground wires to better illuminate the garden, and coming attractions will be a terrace, water fountain and still more plants.

"I'd like to think we took a bad situation and turned it into something everyone can enjoy," he said.



# Owners of Lee campground blast planned expansion of town landfill

By William J. Carey

LEE — The owners of the Maple Glade Campground stepped up their opposition to a planned expansion of the town landfill by complaining last night to both the Selectmen and Department of Public Works.

Thomas and Karen Shaffer, who own 5 acres abutting the Woodland Road landfill, accused the boards of destroying their livelihood by working to expand the site. They posed several pointed questions on the status of a \$190,000 design study and the town's ability to protect against noise, odors and contamination.

The two claim they purchased the campground property two years ago with the understanding that the present dump would be closed and sealed.

"You're literally taking the property from us," Karen Shaffer told the DPW, "because we're not going to have any use for it."

## Unavoidable

The couple spoke against the design study at the May town meeting and notified the Selectmen and DPW of their opposition two weeks ago. Last night, after receiving no reply, they brought the matter to the Airoidi Building and left with the message

that a multimillion-dollar expansion is almost unavoidable.

Asked if that expansion would be opened to regional uses, Selectmen Chairman William D. Bean said the chances are "slim to none" because of a recently adopted municipal-use zoning amendment that specifically forbids regional applications.

He said the town meeting process is unpredictable but speculated that representatives will approve an es-

timated \$4 million for the expansion when the study is completed.

"So you're saying 'the hell with us,' right?" asked Thomas Shaffer.

"I'm saying the needs of this town are very important to this board and the town meeting representatives," replied Bean.

Meeting with the DPW, the Shaffers said they have withheld complaints over noise and litter from the landfill, thinking it would be closed. They also charged that illegal dumping is taking place.

"I guess being decent people didn't get us anywhere," said Karen Shaffer. "For two years, we let you get away with it."

The DPW saw the Shaffers' letter

for the first time last night and agreed to take steps such as constructing a berm and planting trees to shield the landfill.

Board members explained to the couple that long-range plans to use a Holyoke trash-burning plant fell through when the state denied a permit for the facility. They said the cost of trucking garbage to other areas is prohibitive.

"What does the town of Lee do with its trash?" asked David M. Lenart, the board's consulting engineer. "That's a question we have to deal with."

He told the Shaffers, "It's your option to fight it. These people are acting in the best interests of the town."

Berkshire Eagle

Wed. July 8, 1987

## Lee Celebration slated Aug. 21, 22

LEE — The Chamber of Commerce on Monday presented the Selectmen with a "two-day outline" for the annual Lee Celebration, which is scheduled for Aug. 21 and 22.

Nancy D. Frisbie, president of the chamber, said the celebration will not have a final parade on Sunday as it did last year.

The chamber expects to pay between \$500 to \$800 in liability insurance for the two-day event, she said. Liability insurance and police coverage were major expenses last year. In May, town meeting representatives picked up the police expense by appropriating \$3,000.

Frisbie said a number of subcommittees representing merchants from Route 20 to Housatonic Street have been formed to expand the celebration past Main Street, where the majority of businesses are located. Entertainment will be centered at the Toole lot in the afternoon and the town park in the evening.

The Selectmen asked that all vendor's permits be accounted for in order to avoid an "embarrassing" situation. They said a woman received permission to work in front of Kelly's Funeral Home last year without the knowledge of the chamber.

Selectmen Chairman William D. Bean also requested weekly updates

on the progress of preparations.

In other business, Police Chief Edward J. Finnegan and School Committee Chairman Thomas E. Unsworth agreed to find a solution to the issue of who oversees school crossing guards. Recently, the Selectmen decided to pick up the cost of posting a guard at St. Mary's School on Orchard Street. The School Committee, meanwhile, pays for its own guard at Lee Central School on High Street.

Crossing guards in the past were included in the Police Department budget but were deleted as a result of Proposition 2½. Selectman Christopher A. Salinetti has pressed to have both the St. Mary's and the Lee Central guards covered under one authority.

## Outside fires

Joseph and Alberta Sorrentino of Center Street delivered a petition signed by 12 residents demanding that outside fires in the neighborhood be restricted.

The two complained that one resident, Robert Herring, is starting late-night blazes for what he claims to be cooking purposes.

"I'm glad I'm not cooking on his fire," said Alberta Sorrentino. "Because everything would be charcoal."

The Selectmen agreed to look into the matter and take any necessary action.

The board named a seven-man committee to study the possibility of hiring a full-time fire chief. Town meeting representatives called for a study after discussing the matter June 29.

Named to the committee were: William Tyer, Richard Ford, Richard Burns, Robert Lester, William Noonan, Martin Deely and George O'Brien.

Berkshire Eagle - Sat. July 11, 1987

## Early-instrument concert to benefit Lee church

LEE — A concert performed on instruments from earlier eras, to benefit the First Congregational Church steeple and organ restoration funds, will be held July 22 at 8 p.m. at the church.

The concert will feature Kathy Folkers and Ardal Powell playing flute duets on instruments from the 17th and 18th centuries. They will be accompanied by Spencer Carroll on the harpsichord and Mollie Glazer on viola da gamba. The program will consist of works by Leclair, Kirnberger, Bach, Tellemann and others. Folkers and Powell have played

with many early-instrument organizations, including the Boston Camerata. They also are well known for the production of authentic flutes from the 18th century.

Guided tours of the historic church will be conducted at 7:30 before the concert. A reception hosted by Joan Zukowski and members of the First Congregational music committee will follow.

Suggested donations are \$7.50 for adults, \$5 for senior citizens and \$2 for children. The concert is being sponsored by the steeple restoration and music committees.



Berkshire Eagle

Wed. July 15, 1987

# Weed harvester to clear beaches at Laurel Lake

By William J. Carey

LEE — Help is on the way for the weed-choked beaches of Laurel Lake.

Meeting yesterday under the auspices of the county's Lake Advisory Committee, Selectmen Chairman William D. Bean and County Commissioner Peter F. Menard hashed out an agreement to deliver a 7-foot weed harvester, the second-largest machine available, to the lake by tomorrow.

The appearance of the orange-colored harvester will make Laurel Lake the second body of water in Berkshire County to benefit from a \$224,736 arsenal of weed equipment purchased primarily for use on Pontoosuc Lake in Pittsfield and Lanesboro. Additional requests have been received for Lake Mansfield in Great Barrington and Card Pond in West Stockbridge.

Getting the harvester to Laurel Lake took on the dimensions of a crisis yesterday as Bean and Menard negotiated a way to free the equipment from Pontoosuc long enough to hit the Lee and Lenox town beaches, Route 20 boat ramp and possibly other sites by this weekend. The harvest will precede a mandated public hearing scheduled for Monday by the Conservation Commission.

## 'Emergency situation'

"Under the rules and regulations, we can call it an emergency situation, which it is," Bean said. "It was a rough day trying to get this done."

A tour of the lake bears out his description of the situation. Thick weeds have encroached on both town beaches, the boat ramp and private shorelines, spurring increased complaints. The perennial problem worsened this summer because of the absence of a 6-year-old harvester owned by the town of Stockbridge. The harvester, freed in years past for work on Laurel, has been temporarily sidelined with mechanical difficulties.

Cautioning that "no scientifically documented excuse or reason" exists for the onslaught of weeds, William S. Enser Jr. of Berkshire Environmental Labs in Lee said heavy spring rain contributed to an increased runoff of nutrients, while sunny conditions in June fostered the weeds' growth.

Before noon yesterday, 22 cars and about 50 people, mostly young mothers and their children, were present at the Lenox beach on the east side of the lake. The center of the

swimming area was relatively clear, but weeds pressed in from both sides.

"We've had many, many complaints," said Jennifer E. Toomey, one of four lifeguards. "This is the worst it's ever been."

Toomey said the lifeguards rake the swimming area for weeds each morning and mount surfboards to pull the plants from deeper waters near the dock. She said one child nearly drowned recently after becoming entangled in weeds just off the shore.

"Every time I come here, everyone says how disgusting it is to have the weeds tangle around your legs," observed a mother of two who asked not to be identified. Of the efforts to obtain a weed harvester, she said: "It would happen a lot faster if someone got tangled in the weeds and died."

## Barred, deserted

Lee's town beach on the south end of the lake is suffering from both weeds and neglect. Yesterday, the beach was empty and the bathhouse deserted. Stored in the men's room were aluminum dock parts, a diving board and a sign reading, "Sandy Beach, Lee residents only." The access road was blocked by a chain bearing a warning to trespassers from Kimberly-Clark Corp., which owns water rights at the lake.

On Monday, Selectman Christopher A. Salinetti called for a meeting with the Sandy Beach Committee "to discuss the terrible condition of the town beach and a few other things," including the weeds.

Pamela J. Broderick, a member of the beach committee, said the five-member group has yet to meet formally this year. Efforts to reach Chairman Pamela A. Naventi were unsuccessful. The committee has a fiscal 1988 appropriation from the town of \$5,820.

Under the agreement worked out yesterday, the Lee Department of Public Works will pull the 7-foot harvester from Pontoosuc today at noon, after which county workers will dismantle it for travel. Tomorrow at 6:30 a.m., the DPW will return to haul the machine to the Route 20 boat ramp.

The weeds will be transported to the town landfill, Bean said, unless a farmer volunteers to accept them for fertilizer.

"We felt Lenox and Lee were in a bad spot," said Menard, "so we wanted to do all we could for them."

Eagle - Fri. July 17, 1987

## Lee High grad with state group on 3-week tour of Soviet Union

By Cathy A. Leone

LEE — Deborah J. Cahalen, daughter of John and Patricia Cahalen of Stockbridge Road, left yesterday afternoon for a three-week, six-city tour of the Soviet Union as one of 31 members of the Massachusetts Student Advisory Council.

Cahalen is a 1987 graduate of Lee High School, where she was salutatorian and was elected by the student body as a delegate to the regional council. The regional group elected her to the state council, the group that will be touring the Soviet Union.

Cahalen said yesterday that she was excited about her trip and anxious to learn about Soviet culture.

"We did a lot of research, but there's nothing like actually being there," she said. "It will be wonderful meeting with the Soviets and talking to them about their lives and views."

According to Cahalen, the main

mission of the state council is "to promote understanding between the two cultures."

The itinerary will include meeting with the Soviet student youth group Komsomol, visiting youth camps and "perhaps even meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev," she said.

As an advisory council delegate, Cahalen studied Russian in preparation for her trip.

"I packed very lightly," she said, but her baggage does include gifts for her Soviet acquaintances. "It is part of the Soviet culture to present, upon meeting, a gift to the person with whom you would like to establish a friendship. I've included such things as post cards, pencils, bubble gum and balloons."

Cahalen will be returning to the United States Aug. 7, after having visited — in addition to the Soviet cities Moscow, Sochi, Odessa, Minsk, Vilnius and Leningrad —

London, Helsinki and Frankfurt.

The Bay State delegation is one of the high school groups from 39 states invited to tour the Soviet Union following the Geneva summit between Gorbachev and President Reagan.

At Lee High, Cahalen was active in student government, the peer education program and the drama club. She was a member of the National Honor Society and the mathematics and chemistry teams, and recipient of the Lee High School Trig-Star award for demonstrating superior skills in the practical application of trigonometry, the Dartmouth college book award for being an outstanding member of the junior class, and the school's Spanish award. She recently received a four-year National Merit scholarship, through which she will be attending Drew University in Madison, N.J., in the fall.

Eagle - Fri. July 17, 1987

## Preschool center in Lee gets national accreditation

LEE — The Learning Center at 154 West Park St. has received accreditation from the National Association of Educators of Young Children, the largest early-childhood organization in the country.

The preschool is the first in Berkshire County and the seventh in Massachusetts to receive the association's recognition. It is owned and directed by Mary K. Bradbury of Mountain View Terrace, has a staff of six and serves more than 75 children in the Lee area.

Bradbury plans to open a branch in September at 152 North St. in Pittsfield.

"We're based on a creative education concept," she said in describing the school. "Our philosophy is that children learn through play and experience-based instruction."

To obtain accreditation, a school provides a description of its program that is later verified by a field representative. It is rated on each of 10 components and approved or disapproved by a three-member team of commissioners.

According to Bradbury, the criteria include a trained and certified staff, a high quality curriculum, a stimulating classroom environment and active parent participation.

Debra C. Jordan, an accreditation specialist for the national association, said the other accredited schools in Massachusetts are: the Children's Garden of Weston, Happy Day Nursery School of Plymouth, Children's Castle of West Newbury, Children's Garden of Littleton, Green Acres Day School of Waltham and Concord Children's Center.



# Town manager not necessary, Lee panel says

By William J. Carey

LEE — A volunteer committee last night advised the Selectmen to abandon the search for a town manager and hire an administrative assistant instead.

"I think we came to the conclusion that a town manager is not needed," said Patricia D. Carlino, a member of the committee. "The cost would not benefit the town in any way."

In October, the town received a \$10,000 state grant to develop a recruitment and selection process for the town manager's position. Since then, several consultants have notified the Selectmen of their desire to perform that task.

Town officials in the past have said a full-time administrator is needed to oversee the town's \$6 million budget and monitor development growth.

## 'Operating efficiently'

But the committee interviewed the Assessors, town clerk, Department of Public Works and other departments and found them "operating efficiently" and making "good decisions day to day," said Joseph M. Toole, another member.

"In checking the temperature of the town," he said, "it seems to be in good shape."

The shortfall lies within the Selectmen's office, which is executing an increasing amount of business, the two said. The "logical first step," Toole said, would be to hire a full-time administrative secretary similar to those in Lenox and Great Barrington.

All sides agreed that Selectmen's Secretary Pauline E. "Bobbie" Pollard is hard-pressed to keep up with the workload in the 20 hours allotted to her position.

"I think the Selectmen owe it to this town to have someone in this office from 9 to 4," said Elizabeth Larrivee, who preceded Pollard as the board's secretary. "It's just not fair."

Selectmen Chairman William D. Bean agreed that town departments are doing a capable job, but said he would "hate very much" to veto the grant in light of the efforts of Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins, D-Lee, to secure it.

## 'Slap in the face'

Bean said it would be a "slap in the face" to forego the \$10,000 at this point.

"I know what you're saying, but I think it would be a slap in the face to the taxpayers of Massachusetts" to use the grant, responded Selectman Christopher A. Salinetti. "We could get a nice ring binder with

bonded paper that says the same thing Joe and Patty are saying."

The board took the committee's recommendation under advisement.

In other business, Arthur and Linda Segal, owners of The King-sleigh bed and breakfast at 32 Park St., presented a petition signed by 74 residents calling for steps to enforce the 25-mile-per-hour speed limit on Housatonic Street at the Park Street intersection.

The petition also calls for the installation of warning signs and for town and state police "to make their presence known." It said both residents and shoppers have complained of their inability to enter driveways and businesses along the busy stretch, which is used for access to and from the Massachusetts Turnpike.

## 'Really up in arms'

"The petition is self-explanatory," said Arthur Segal. "The people are really up in arms and I think the next step is a protest march to stop the traffic."

Segal said he placed twice-a-week calls to the state Department of Public Works to have crosswalks painted and at times, directs traffic himself to help elderly pedestrians across the street.

The Selectmen agreed to forward the petition to the Police Department. "We will take action on it," Bean promised.

Also, the Selectmen received a letter from Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman George Frulla asking them to appoint alternate members for the board and to request the resignation of regular members who cannot attend meetings.

Frulla said a July 14 hearing on a variance request had to be called off due to the lack of a quorum on the five-member board. Selectman Diane P. Roosa, who serves as the board secretary, added that she had to notify several abutters of the same hearing twice because it was rescheduled.

"It is frustrating both to the people requesting the hearing as well as the members who are present to have to reschedule these meetings," Frulla wrote.

The Selectmen decided to send a memorandum to all appointed boards requesting that those who cannot attend resign.

Also, the Selectmen advised that dogs and motor vehicles are prohibited on the Sandy Beach, which opened last week.

Lee Tax Collector Janice Smith has announced that personal property and real estate tax bills for the second half of fiscal 1987 were mailed this week. Payments must be made by Aug. 13 to avoid penalty.

Lee Planning Board will return to its normal schedule of meeting on the first and third Monday of each month following its next session, July 27. In August, it will hold meetings on the first, third and fifth Monday.

Thursday, July 23, 1987 — B11

## Annual auction will benefit Lee Youth Assn.

LEE — The second annual "Event Under a Tent," an auction to benefit the Lee Youth Association, will be held Saturday at the Toole Agency lot on the corner of Main and Elm streets.

More than 200 items, including antiques, art, collectibles, crafts, dinners, gift certificates, quilts, rugs, sporting goods and tickets, have been donated by area businesses and individuals for the auction.

Last year, the auction netted \$6,500 for the youth association to upgrade its headquarters on Academy Street and to expand programming.

Highlighting this year's auction will be a breakfast with actor Michael Vale of Stockbridge, known for his Dunkin' Donuts' commercials, a basketball signed by the Boston Celtics, a baseball signed by the Cincinnati Reds, tickets for the Red Sox and Yankees, a Southern-style dinner for six, original art, and passes to cultural events, ski areas and nearby hotels.

For the second year, Louis Caropreso of the Caropreso Gallery in Lee will offer his services as auctioneer. The preview will begin at 9:30 a.m., with the auction at 11.

The auction is headed by Joseph A. Furgal Jr. of Lee and is the LYA's major fund-raiser. The 1987 proceeds will be used to renovate the first floor of the youth center to accommodate increased attendance and use of the facilities.

Fri. July 24, 1987

## Lee TV store opening outlet on North Street

LePrevost's, a television sales store headquartered in Lee, plans to open a second store next week in the A-Mart Plaza.

The 524 North St. store is owned by the husband and wife team of John C. and Carol E. LePrevost, who collectively have been in the television and electronic sales business for 28 years.

LePrevost's, among other companies in the area, is an authorized dealer for Sony and Quasar equipment, including television sets, videocassette recorders and cameras. In addition, it sells and installs satellite dishes.

The company repairs televisions from its Lee location at 93 Center St.

The company will lease about 1,000 square feet from the owners of the A-Mart Plaza, Aldo A. Ricchi and his wife, Judy L. Ricchi.

The LePrevosts moved at a cost of about \$4,000 to the new location, which is the former site of Lace, a lingerie store managed by Sharon S. Wood and Lynn M. Strizzi and owned by Pauline C. Strizzi.



Eagle — Sat. July 25, 1987

# Hodgkins seeks funds for Lee town square

By William J. Carey

LEE — State Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins, D-Lee, toured the town square with two state officials yesterday in an attempt to gain rehabilitation funding through the state's town and city commons program.

Hodgkins, a member of the Legislature's Ways and Means Committee, said he has lobbied to appropriate \$10 million for the commons program, which aids municipalities in upgrading their parks. The funding measure is being considered by the Senate after winning approval in the House.

Hodgkins said he is seeking a "substantial amount of money" to redesign the town square according to a 1981 plan designed by landscape architect Robert B. Macintosh. The improve-

ments would coincide, he said, with efforts to renovate the Civil War Memorial Town Hall and First Congregational Church steeple.

Macintosh's program calls for landscaping the present parking lot between the town hall and park square, relocating the information booth, planting trees and creating parallel parking, among other improvements.

Of the program, Hodgkins said, "It's not going to be piecemeal. We're going to do the whole thing. This will start once and for all to implement Bob Macintosh's great ideas."

Yesterday, Hodgkins toured the square with Willa S. Kuh, director of the commons program, and Robert F. Kumor Jr., a deputy commissioner in the planning division of the Department of Environmental Management.

Also present were Selectman Christopher A. Salinetti and Public Works Superintendent J. Peter Scolforo.

The group observed a number of monuments, including the site of the first meeting house in 1780, an Indian head fountain erected by the Loyal Temperance Union, a bicentennial tribute to the Housatonic Indians and a bicentennial time capsule.

Under the town meeting form of government, Scolforo said, it is difficult to obtain spot funding for park improvements after the yearly appropriations have been made. In order to win state funding, Kuh advised the group to reach an "easy consensus" as to what the improvements should be.

She said the town would become eligible for funding soon after the Senate rules on the appropriation measure.

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Berkshire Eagle — Tues. July 28, 1987

## Lee planners approve Morgan House expansion

LEE — The Planning Board last night paved the way for a two-story expansion of the Morgan House by determining that enough parking exists in the immediate area to support the business.

The 3-0 Planning Board decision is contingent, however, on the purchase and development by the town of a quarter-acre lot on the corner of Railroad and Eaton streets. Meeting with the board last night, Morgan House owner William Orford formally offered to contribute \$10,000 to expedite the purchase.

He said later that parking was the lone stumbling block to an expansion of the three-story restaurant and inn, built as a private residence by William Potter in 1817. Orford and his wife, Elizabeth, purchased the building in 1981 from Maria Cole, the wife of the late singer Nat King Cole.

Last March, Orford unveiled plans for a banquet room holding up to 250 people and several new guest rooms with private baths. The addition will be behind the present building on 33 Main St.

At that time, Orford said parking in the crowded area would have to be negotiated with his neighbors,

including McClelland Drug Store and the Price Chopper supermarket. Last night, he said Main Street businesses have agreed to ask their employees to park in the town lot near the Housatonic River as a means to open up nearby space for patrons.

The job of the Planning Board was to determine whether adequate parking space is available within 200 feet of the Morgan House. It will be, the board ruled, once the town acquires the quarter-acre lot owned by P. James Scarafoni at Railroad and Eaton streets.

"What he needed to expand his business was fulfilled by this lot as far as the Planning Board can tell," said member Leif Steinert.

In May, the town appropriated \$50,000 and formed a committee to negotiate for the purchase. That committee found the land to be worth \$60,000, leaving the town \$10,000 short. Orford said he is willing to make up the difference, both for his benefit and the town's.

Based on the pending purchase, Orford said he will seek a building permit from Building Inspector Edward M. Briggs. He said the addition should be completed by next April.

Berkshire Eagle — Tues. July 28, 1987

## Lee board names Loring as Derrick's replacement

LEE — The Selectmen last night accepted the resignation of veteran Assessor William F. Derrick and appointed another veteran to replace him.

Derrick, who served 12 years on the Board of Assessors, said he tendered his resignation because of increased business responsibilities. Recently he became sole owner of the Lee Hardware Store at 69 Main St.

The Selectmen thanked him for his services and appointed former Assessor John E. Loring of Prospect Street as his replacement. Loring will have to seek election in May to the two-year balance of the term.

"I'm thrilled he's taking the job," said Derrick, who described Loring as a capable addition to the three-member board.

In other business, the Selectmen received a copy of a letter from Tri-Town Sanitarian Peter J. Kolodziej advising the Planning Board and Board of Health that "no further action should be contemplated" on a subdivision proposed by Frank P. Consolati until proper documentation is supplied for an old disposal site on the property.

Consolati is proposing a 39-lot subdivision on the west side of Fairview Street. According to Kolodziej, he has agreed to take whatever steps are necessary to properly close the disposal site.

Also, the Selectmen received sign permit applications from two businesses, Marskandiser Florist & Greenhouse of Cape Street and The Corner Connection on Main Street, which are relocating to the premises of the Here-U-Are Restaurant on Cape Street. The restaurant property was purchased recently by Marskandiser owner Karina Kruse.

Also, the board received a copy of the July 20 minutes of a town Department of Public Works board meeting stating that a fuel tank at Biasin Welding & Fabricating of 51 Railroad St. had been removed as of Thursday after it was found to be leaking. The state Department of Environmental Quality Engineering responded to test soil in the area, according to the minutes.

Also, the minutes of the July 6 Conservation Commission meeting stated that developer Arnold Scar-

amuzzi had expressed interest in building a motel on land between the Burger King restaurant and Sunset Motel on Housatonic Street. The board advised that all building would have to be concentrated off the floodway area near the Housatonic River.

Lee Congregational Church will hold a bake sale and flea market Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. at the church. The event will be held rain or shine.



# Judge hits Lee firm with fines

54.

LEE — Church Manufacturing Co. and Robert F. Cimini of Lenox, its controller, were sentenced in Springfield Tuesday for making false statements to the federal government between 1982 and 1984, when the company was known as Clark-Aiken Corp.

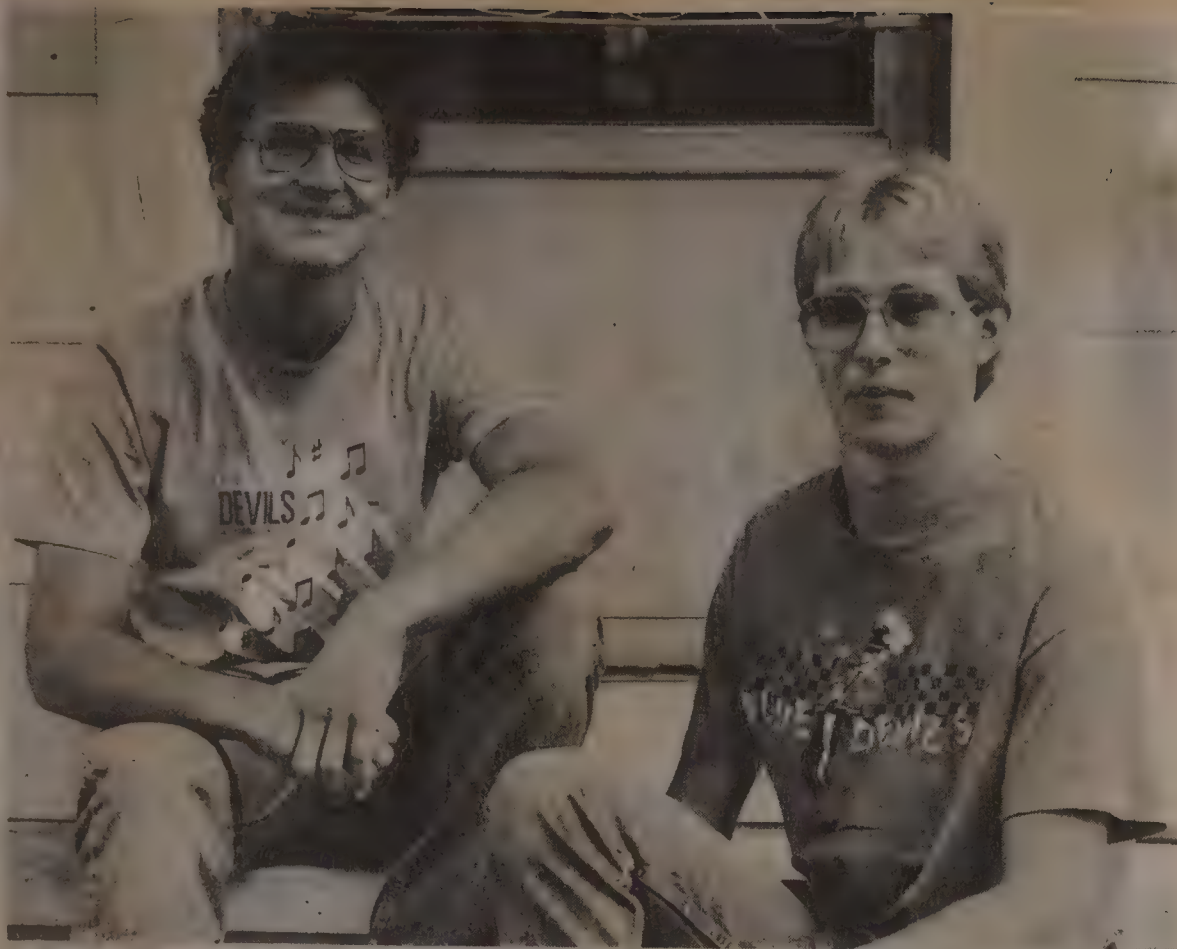
U.S. District Court Judge Frank H. Freedman ordered Church Manufacturing, a maker of aircraft parts that is no longer functioning, to pay a \$50,000 fine and \$16,995 in restitution. He ordered Cimini to pay a fine of \$10,000 and placed him on two years' probation.

The two parties had entered guilty pleas on June 30. Church Manufacturing was represented by Pittsfield attorney Leonard H. Cohen; Cimini was represented by Springfield attorney Charles K. Bergin.

The offenses involved the rental of government-owned equipment in the performance of various contracts. According to U.S. Attorney C. Brian McDonald, the government was deprived of \$105,000 for the improper use of its equipment for commercial purposes. Another \$148,000 is still being disputed for the use of equipment the company claims was rent-free.

Clark-Aiken, which is in bankruptcy, manufactured aircraft parts and large machines for the paper industry at its sprawling factory on Route 20. The paper division was purchased last year by Matik North America of West Hartford, Conn., which employs about 75 people in Lee. The aircraft division was phased out.

The company and a committee representing its creditors have filed a liquidation plan in U.S. Bankruptcy Court. A confirmation hearing on the plan will be held Aug. 25 at 10 a.m. at the Hall of Justice in Springfield.



**BEST FRIENDS** Matthew J. Baccoli, left, and Timothy J. Maxfield will be marching and playing with the Diplomat Drum and Bugle Corps of Malden at Wahconah Park Sunday.

Joel Librizzi

*Berkshire Eagle - Wed July 29, 1987*

## Meet Lee's Diplomats

They'll strut their stuff at Wahconah Park Sunday

By Holly A. Taylor

As they march and sweat under the summer sun, Timothy J. Maxfield and Matthew J. Baccoli of Lee ask themselves if the 10 hours of daily practice in deserted parking lots and unfamiliar fields is really worth it.

But when they don their red, black and white uniforms, pick up their gleaming instruments and strut before an audience, the doubts disappear. Being a member of the Diplomat Drum and Bugle Corps of Malden, they say, merits every drop of sweat.

On Sunday, Baccoli, 17, a percussionist, and Maxfield, 16, a bugler, will perform with the Diplomats at the Precision and Pageantry Competition at Wahconah Park, sponsored by the Pittsfield Fourth of July Parade Committee.

"I've wanted to do this since I was 5 years old. I saw my first drum and bugle corps at Monument Mountain High School in 1977, and that was it," said Maxfield.

Maxfield and Baccoli began music lessons in the Lee schools in the 6th grade and joined the Royal Knights Drum and Bugle Corps of Lee in 1983. Baccoli worked his way up to drum major, thus serving as leader of the band.

Last year the two best friends decided they were ready for a

bigger band and were accepted by the nationally ranked Diplomats, a junior corps for people 21 and under.

The 84-member band attracts young musicians from throughout the United States and even Great Britain, and in competitions it participates in the open class, which is the drum and bugle corps equivalent of the major league, Baccoli said.

As Diplomats, Baccoli and Maxfield are spending their summer in Malden and on the road traveling to 28 competitions in Ohio, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and other states.

The challenge of a drum and bugle competition, they explained, is to perform marching and music with equal grace.

"We try to march smoothly and in unison. The music should be balanced, flowing and nice. The judges want to see how well you can perform difficult music," Baccoli said.

The Diplomats use some homemade instruments, like saws, soda cans with screws inside and trash barrels, for special effects. Showmanship counts, too, he said.

Dashing maneuvers, timed to music, impress the judges. For example, Baccoli said the Sunday performance will feature a drum solo, called "Egyptian Danza," in

which the drummers will march with cymbals balanced on bent arms, like Egyptians.

"We're also going to do 'Make Me Smile' by Chicago. We did that one in Canada and it sure made the audience smile. We got a standing ovation," Maxfield said.

Maxfield, a sophomore at Lee High School, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Hayden Maxfield of 199 High St., Lee. Baccoli, a junior, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Baccoli of 337 East Center St., Lee. They both plan to enlist in military service on graduating, perhaps play in a military band and make music a permanent part of their lives.

Just as they outgrew the Royal Knights, they hope to make the leap before they turn 21 to a top corps, like the Garfield (N.J.) Cadets, the Spirit of Atlanta from Georgia or the Blue Devils of Concord, Calif.

Asked if they'll make that move together, Maxfield and Baccoli slapped their arms around each other, smiled and said, "Oh yeah! We're best friends."



Berkshire Eagle.

Thurs. July 30, 1987

## Lee warns truckers about landfill rules

LEE — The town's Department of Public Works has issued a stern warning to three local trucking firms stating that sanctions will be applied for the illegal dumping of commercial and out-of-town garbage at the town's Woodland Road landfill.

In a brief letter dated July 17, the DPW said, "It is very apparent that the Lee landfill is receiving commercial and out-of-town refuse through the hauler system. Our policy of accepting normal household refuse only has not changed. If you do not stop the illegal dumping, our only choice will be to restrict the landfill to cars only."

The letter was sent to the Lenox Trucking Co. and two Lee firms, Daley & Sons Trucking and Crawford Trucking.

The town landfill, which is nearing capacity, was closed to all but residential uses in 1985 in an attempt to prolong its lifespan. According to Public Works Superintendent J. Peter Scolforo, recent monitoring of the site revealed that Lee households were not the sole origin of the trash.

Scolforo said yesterday he is drafting a follow-up letter to truckers outlining a first offense suspension of one week and second offense suspension of two weeks for any firm caught dumping prohibited trash.

"I just want to reiterate the board's point that we don't want any more commercial trash in the

landfill," he said. "That's it, I'm sorry."

Cathy Field, assistant secretary at Lenox Trucking, responded, "We don't do it."

Commercial trash, she said, is picked up Mondays and Fridays from customers such as Kentucky Fried Chicken, Convenience Plus, Food-N-Fuel and Carr Hardware, delivered directly to a transfer station and then to Chicopee. Residential trash is taken on Fridays to the town dump.

William Crawford, owner of Crawford Trucking, declined to comment on the letter. Nelson Daley of Daley & Sons Trucking could not be reached yesterday afternoon.

In May, town meeting representatives appropriated \$190,000 for the study and design of an expansion to the landfill, a development that would reopen the site to commercial uses. Scolforo said the DPW is in the process of drawing up a request for proposals to do the work.

Also to be considered, he said, is the possibility of a new or expanded Vicon trash-burning plant. Vicon Recovery Associates is located in Pittsfield. If Vicon covered Lee, the town landfill would be required to handle a relatively small amount of ash, a trash byproduct.

In a related matter, the DPW has agreed to keep Thomas and Karen Shaffer, owners of the abutting Maple Glade Campground, apprised of the landfill expansion. The Shaffers oppose the expansion.

55.

A6 — The Berkshire Eagle, Saturday, August 1, 1987

## The Berkshire Eagle

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### Editorials

## Hodgkins' nuclear ban

Should nuclear-power plants continue to run in this state even though the nation has no disposal site yet for the lethal, high-level radioactive waste that the plants generate?

It's a provocative question that is now being posed by a group called the Campaign to Stop Nuclear Waste. The campaign is sponsoring a ballot referendum that would pull the plug on the state's nuclear plants on July 4, 1989 on the grounds that they are producing waste for which the nation has no disposal solution. One of the first 10 signers of the petition for the referendum (it must have 50,525 signatures to qualify for the ballot) is state Representative Christopher J. Hodgkins of Lee.

Organizers of the campaign make no bones about the fact that they are using the waste question as a way of bringing nuclear power to a halt. In focusing on this aspect of the life cycle of this energy source, they have certainly struck one of the industry's vulnerable points. The federal government is still years away from having a burial site for the tons of high-level waste generated each year by the country's 109 licensed commercial reactors.

Nor is it much of an excuse for the industry that the original plan — or dream — was to reprocess spent fuel rods, thus reducing greatly the need for any waste-disposal measures. That technology has since been

found to be a non-starter and the used rods are now being stored in carefully monitored pools of water at each plant.

Still, for all of the nuclear industry's lack of foresight, closing down nuclear plants because of this problem would be an extreme and not entirely logical step. Nuclear plants, including the one at Rowe, may provide a relatively small portion (about 5 percent) of all electricity generated in Massachusetts, but nuclear-generated power from reactors like the three at Millstone in Connecticut raise the total share of atomic energy used in the state to 25 or 30 percent. If Mr. Hodgkins and the other petition signers (who would presumably favor closing other states' reactors as well) have a way to replace that much power by July of 1989, they should not keep it a secret.

One way or another, this nation is going to have to find a disposal site for radioactive waste. Whatever site is decided on will have to have the capacity to accommodate not just the military and civilian waste that has already accumulated but also the byproducts of operating reactors.

The continuing production of nuclear waste is not a reason to shut down all of the state's or all of the country's reactors. Unsafe design or operating practices may be a reason to shut down some of them. But that's not an issue to be settled by referendum.

## Hodgkins joins foes of nuclear power

### Representative from Lee backs effort to bar generation of nuclear waste

By Judy Katz

BOSTON — Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins, D-Lee, is one of the 10 original signers of a proposed ballot referendum that would force the state's two nuclear power plants out of business by barring them from generating nuclear waste.

The text of the referendum was submitted to the attorney general's office yesterday by the sponsoring organization, the Campaign to Stop Nuclear Waste. Proponents need the signatures of 50,525 registered voters to put the measure on the 1988 state ballot.

#### 'Independence Day'

The binding referendum would ban the commercial generation of electric power "by means which result in the production of nuclear waste" as of July 4, 1989. Sponsors said Independence Day was chosen to symbolize the theme of their campaign — a "declaration of independence from nuclear waste."

A. Patricia Granahan, director of the sponsoring Campaign to Stop Nuclear Waste, said its intended effect is to close down the plants.

"To me, this is more of a nuclear waste issue than a nuclear power issue," Hodgkins said. "It is unnecessary and unwise to continue generating electric power by a method that produces nuclear waste when there is no place to put it."

He said he wants to be sure Massachusetts does not "become a receptacle" for nuclear waste, "and we can't do that while we are still producing it."

As the pressure for a disposal site becomes more intense, he said, he expects the state to turn its eyes toward rural Berkshire County and its large tracts of state-owned land. Yankee Atomic at Rowe already has 120 tons of waste stockpiled with no place to go, he said.

"This is high-level waste," he said. "I don't want to be caught sitting on my hands 10 years from now and then jump up and say, 'Not in my back yard.'"

After delivering the referendum text to the attorney general's office, Jo Ann Shotwell of the Campaign to Stop Nuclear Waste declared that "this is the beginning of the end for the nuclear industry in Massachusetts."

If the campaign should achieve its goal, countered a spokesman for Boston Edison, owner of the Pilgrim nuclear plant in Plymouth, it would be "the beginning of the end of a healthy economy in Massachusetts." The demand for electric power in the state has increased about 4 percent a year in each of the past five years, said spokesman Michael Monahan, and an adequate supply of electricity "is a major contributor to a robust economy." Referendum sponsors said that Pilgrim and Yankee generate only 5 percent of the state's power. That may be so, said Monahan, "but if these people are saying close down nuclear power plants, I guess they are saying we don't need the plants in Maine, Vermont, Connecticut and New Brunswick. That power flows into Massachusetts. If you eliminate electricity generated by nuclear power, you are talking about 25 percent to 30 percent of the state's electricity."

The nuclear industry in the state has handled its waste safely over the 25 years of its history, he said.

The referendum makes workers who lose their jobs as a result of the waste-production ban eligible for re-employment and health insurance benefits under the state's plant-closing law. But it contains no provision for compensating the owners for their lost investment in the plants.

Hodgkins maintained that compensation would not be required. It would not deprive Yankee Atomic and Boston Edison of the use of their property, he said, because it specifically permits converting the plants to a fossil fuel source.

#### Conversion offer 'a gimmick'

Monahan dismissed that provision as "a gimmick."

Conversion, he said, "technically, economically and in terms of practicality is just not feasible."

A. Patricia Granahan, director of the campaign, said the wording of the referendum was based on one that withstood a court test in California. "We realize that challenges will come forth," she said. "But we feel we are on strong legal ground."

The waste issue, she said, is an important one and one that "strikes at the heart of the voters."

There is no safe or proven way to dispose of nuclear waste, she said.

"The only solution is to stop making it."



# Lee firefighters opposed to hiring of full-time chief

By William J. Carey

LEE — Members of the Lee Fire Company have recommended that a full-time fire chief not be hired and that the position be removed from the requirements of Civil Service.

The chief's position is currently being studied by a seven-member committee of town meeting representatives and firefighters. That panel has already committed itself to putting the wishes of the town above those of the Fire Department.

Several weeks ago, volunteer firefighters attached to the Central Station on Main Street voted on the two issues facing the committee. They decided that a full-time chief is unnecessary and that the position should be removed from the requirements of Civil Service, which in recent years has blocked the path of local candidates.

Meeting again Monday, firefighters suggested a minimum eligibility requirement of 10 years' experience for the job and recommended that future chiefs hold the part-time position for three to five years before coming up for review.

## More money

They also are of the opinion, one firefighter said, that more money is justified for the job.

On June 29, town meeting representatives said they needed further information before ruling on the chief's position. On their advice, the Selectmen appointed the study committee to make a solid recommendation for future action. The fire company, which represents the general membership of the town department, was asked for its opinion as part of the committee's decision-making process.

Lazzaro J. "Digger" Buffis has served as acting chief of the department since the death of former Chief Ottavio B. Giarolo in 1984. He

earns roughly \$4,000 a year.

Since the appointment of Buffis, several local candidates have failed to pass the difficult, once-a-year Civil Service exam qualifying them for the chief's position. To rectify the situation, town meeting representatives were asked in June to decide whether the job should be removed from the requirements of Civil Service, a proposal that was struck down in 1985.

In addition, they were presented with the option of hiring a full-time chief from the statewide list of

## Dalton accident injures motorcyclist

DALTON — A local man was treated for a leg injury and later released from the Berkshire Medical Center emergency room after his motorcycle collided with a car at the intersection of Dalton Division Road and South Street shortly after 7 Tuesday night.

David N. Wise, 36, of 62 Meadow Drive complained of a leg injury and scrapes and was transported to BMC by County Ambulance.

According to police, Wise was traveling west on South Street when his motorcycle collided with a 1985 Chrysler driven by David A. Shaker, 64, of 34 Royal Ave., North Adams, as Shaker pulled out of Dalton Division Road.

Wise and his wife, Lynn, were thrown from the motorcycle. She refused treatment at the scene.

Damages to the Chrysler and 1986 Harley-Davidson motorcycle were estimated at more than \$1,000 to each. It was not known if Shaker was wearing a seat belt.

According to Sgt. Daniel D. Filliault, Shaker was charged with failure to grant the right of way at an intersection.

candidates who had passed the test.

The study committee, whose chairman is former Selectman William F. Tyler Jr., met with the Selectmen on July 13. The two parties agreed that any recommendation would give the wishes of the town priority over those of the Fire Department.

## 'Brouhaha' expected

Tyler said the committee would take into consideration the fact that "good people are working hard" on the department and "may not be satisfied with our recommendation." He added, "I'm not looking forward to the brouhaha this could create."

Committee members said last night they had not yet seen the fire company's recommendations. Neither had Selectmen Chairman William D. Bean, who said any speculation on the chief's job at this point would be premature.

Bean stipulated that only two issues are being considered: the question of a full-time chief and that of Civil Service. "As far as length of service and who it's going to be," he said, "the town meeting reps will make the decision on how they want to handle it."

He said, "The town comes first, above anything else."

## Berkshire Eagle Tues. Aug 4 1987 Grampy's gets a sign ultimatum; Lee board to check all permits

LEE — The Selectmen are preparing to clamp down on illegal business signs.

Last night, at the urging of Selectman Christopher A. Salinetti, the board agreed to issue an ultimatum to Grampy's Corner Store on Housatonic Street after several orders to remove a "24-hour" sign from the premises went unheeded. That sign and many others, the board said, do not have permits.

## Blames chain

Salinetti, who hand-delivered a removal order to employees of Grampy's, said the board should rescind any permits held by the store as a punishment for further non-compliance. He pinned the responsibility on corporate officers of the chain, saying they probably instructed the workers to remove the sign temporarily and then replace it. Grampy's belongs to Callahan Oil Co. of New London, Conn.

"That's the way they operate," Salinetti said, "and it shows."

Also in a state of non-compliance, the Selectmen said, is a small sign in front of Zabian's clothing store advertising tickets for the Berkshire Opera Company. The tickets are available at the Greater Lee Chamber of Commerce office in the basement of the building.

The Selectmen had approved the placement of the sign, but only during business hours. They said last night that it has remained in front of the building throughout the day.

In order to track down other illegal signs, the board has requested a list of all businesses in town to determine which establishments hold permits.

## Banner gone

Also, Chairman William D. Bean reported that a banner advertising the Berkshire Opera at Cranwell between July 19 and Aug. 15 has been taken down permanently from its prominent position across Main Street. The board had approved the banner on June 22, stipulating that if it proved "unsuitable," it would be removed.

After the banner fell twice, Bean said, the board was asked to approve the use of heavy steel bolts on the two facing buildings. It decided instead to have the sign removed.

In other business last night, the board signed an agreement, contingent on town meeting approval, to purchase a half-acre plot of land at the corner of Railroad and Eaton streets for \$60,000. The town has already appropriated \$50,000 for the property, which is owned by P. James Scarfoni and Edward and

Lorraine Finnegan. William Orford, owner of the Morgan House, has offered to contribute the remaining \$10,000 to obtain needed parking space for a proposed expansion of the inn.

Also, the Lee Housing Authority informed the board that it has appointed Joanne M. Walsh as its new executive director. Walsh replaces Melanie M. Zanini, who is the focus of a probe by the Berkshire County district attorney's office into an alleged misuse of \$12,000 in housing funds. Zanini served as the executive of both the Lee and Stockbridge housing authorities before resigning.

Also, L. Thomas Linden, executive director of the Massachusetts Municipal Association, will be available to hear concerns and answer questions on Aug. 20, from 1 to 4 p.m., at the Senior Center. The meeting is open to town officers, secretaries and anyone concerned with town operations.



# N. County town executives invited to address Lee issue

LEE — The Selectmen have decided to continue to explore the option of hiring a full-time town manager or assistant, despite a committee's recommendation that one is not needed.

To assist with the decision, the board has invited Adams Town Administrator Henry J. Hill and Williamstown Town Manager Steven L. Ledoux to speak Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the Senior Center.

"We have all this talent out there to look at," said Chairman William D. Bean. "We want to get the overall picture of the town administrator's job."

In October, the town received a \$10,000 state grant to develop the full-time position and begin the search for candidates. Since then, several consultants have notified the Selectmen of their desire to perform the task.

But July 20, two members of a volunteer committee told the board that town departments are operating efficiently and that a full-time overseer is unnecessary. They suggested instead the hiring of an administrative secretary similar to those in Lenox and Great Barrington.

## Tabled the matter

After debating whether the \$10,000 should be spent anyway or sent back to the state, the Selectmen tabled the matter.

"Our committee felt we did what we had to," said member Patricia D. Carlino, the town's assistant clerk and treasurer. If the Selectmen feel a need to go ahead with the study, she said, "that's fine."

The study is not completely free, as town meeting representatives will be asked to approve \$300 as the town's share of the grant.

State Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins, D-Lee, who helped the town win the grant, said yesterday that a number of job descriptions will be studied, including that for an administrative assistant. Other poten-

tial job titles are town manager, executive secretary and town administrator.

"I have no doubt," Hodgkins said, "that we can prove it will be a worthwhile position."

As proposed by Hodgkins, the person filling the job would "work toward a constructive and open dialogue between agencies and departments within the town, make sure proper ordinances and bylaws passed by the Board of Selectmen are followed and act as a supportive and advocacy office for the Selectmen."

## How concept works

A number of elective town boards have voiced the need for a full-time administrator to cope with increasing paperwork, regulations and monitoring of development. Bean said the two North County administrators have been asked to describe

how the concept actually works.

Adams, population 9,910, and Williamstown, population 8,450, have five-member boards of selectmen. Lee has a population of 6,227 and three selectmen.

"I want as much input into this thing as possible," said Bean. "We're not trying to change town government, we're trying to get a supportive person behind it."

The meeting is open to department heads, employees and anyone else with an interest in town government, he said.

## Probable cause found for gender bias complaint

STOCKBRIDGE — The Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination notified the Selectmen yesterday that it has found probable cause for allegations made by Sheryl J. Ferry of Pittsfield that she was denied a job as a town police officer because of her sex.

Selectmen Chairman John A. Beacco Jr. said the board disagreed with the ruling and would meet with David O. Burbank, a member of Cain, Hibbard, Myers & Cook, the law firm that serves as town counsel, to decide on a course of action.

"We feel that the finding of the Commission Against Discrimination is totally unfounded," Beacco said.

Ferry alleges she was rejected three times for a full-time position on the police force. The third time, in March 1986, according to the

commission's report, Ferry was turned down because she was told "the town would not seriously consider hiring a female police officer."

The complaint also states that Ferry underwent a more rigorous examination than other applicants and that her work record was "excellent."

Police Chief Richard B. Wilcox said Ferry's rejection was based on her poor performance in an interview for the position, the report said.

Commission investigator Frederick A. Hurst said in the letter he hoped the board could resolve the matter "as promptly and amicably as possible."

"If we can resolve this easily, fine," said Beacco, "but we also have to resolve it reasonably."

Ferry's attorney, P. Keyburn Hollister of Pittsfield, said she was "pleased" with the commission's decision. She said she and Ferry would meet to discuss a plan of action.

"I think we've got a pretty good case," she said.

If the town and Ferry cannot agree on a settlement, the report said, a public hearing will be set and a settlement may be ordered by the commission.

## Laliberte Fund collects \$625

LEE — The Laliberte Toy Fund has accumulated \$625 to date toward its goal of \$2,800.

The fund is open to families of children under 10 in Lee, Tyringham and Lenox Dale. Toy requests and donations may be mailed to P.O. Box 278 in Lee or handed to any Lee police officer.

Toys will be distributed from 9 to noon Dec. 20 in the basement of the

Abutters and town officials last night questioned the impact of The High Meadows on the town's sewer system, traffic flow and real estate values. Sewer use has been a major concern because the sewage plant off Route 102 is close to capacity.

Epstein said his group plans to cooperate with the town in gaining easements to the present sewer line on Fairview Street. As building was done in stages over five to seven years, he said, the town could generate enough tax revenue to issue a bond for a sewerage expansion before the present system is overburdened.

## Neighbor opposed

That possibility, however, met opposition from Fairview Street resident Robert Bartini, who said he was approached by Goodman more than a year ago to provide an easement for single-family houses. Bartini said he would not grant a sewer easement for condominiums.

Louis V. Failla of Fairview Street, a former member of the Planning Board, asked that the Selectmen impose a building moratorium on all projects requiring special permits until a land-use study is completed. He said the town is "burning the candle on both ends" between an industrial and commercial existence.

"If people like you are going to come in and up the value of the land so local people can't afford it, what's the use of bringing up children in this town?" he asked Epstein.



Berkshire Eagle, Monday, August 17, 1987

# Super 8 chain proposes motel in Lee

By William J. Carey

LEE — Super 8 Northeast Inc., a franchise of the nationwide Super 8 motel chain, is proposing a 67-unit building on Housatonic Street.

The building would be located on property owned by the estate of the late Adelarde J. Laliberte at 128 Housatonic St. Northeast Hospitality Inc., the development arm of the motel franchise, currently has an option to buy the land.

A spokesman for the motel's management arm in Montgomery, N.Y., said construction could begin as soon as this fall, with a spring 1988 opening, based on the local approval process.

The Laliberte property is the middle lot of three homes between the Burger King restaurant and Sunset Motel. It extends behind the two abutting homes, forming a T-shaped parcel of about 3 acres.

The targeted land is part of the Housatonic River flood plain, and any construction must be approved by the Conservation Commission, which will hold a hearing on the Super 8 plan tonight at 7:30. Joan D. Clemons, chairman of the commission, said the developers will be required among other conditions to maintain a compensatory flood storage area to make up for the loss of open land.

The plan also requires a special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

## 67 motel rooms

Proposed is an 11,000-square-foot, L-shaped building with approximately 67 rooms. Paul J. Scarpa of the Tyngham firm Accord Diversified Consultants, which is preparing the site plan, said the building will have access to a sewer line in the rear of the property and an ex-

isting water line off Housatonic Street.

Super 8 Northeast operates approximately 25 motels in New York and New England and has recently completed buildings in Lewiston, Maine, Keene, N.H., and Brattleboro, Vt. Still under construction are motels in Greenfield and Gardner. The nationwide Super 8 chain covers approximately 450 motels.

## Near turnpike

Once a local motel is completed, it is turned over to an operating subsidiary called Super 8 Management East. Timothy D. Finlay, vice president of operations for the management arm, said the Housatonic Street site was chosen for its commercial development and proximity to the Massachusetts Turnpike.

The firm is not intimidated, he

said, by the fact that two of its would-be neighbors are the Sunset and Pilgrim motels.

"We wouldn't look at that site if the market wasn't there," he said. "There seems to be enough demand for everyone."

Finlay said single rooms will be in the \$30-per-night range with amenities such as cable television, oversized beds and telephones. He said the year-round, "bread and butter" customers are expected to be business people, with tourists adding to the register during the summer.

Lee Youth Association Baseball Night will be Aug. 19 at 7:45 p.m. at Wahconah Park in Pittsfield. Tickets are available at the Lee Community Center at no cost. For those who need a ride to the game, a bus will leave the center at 7 p.m. There is a \$2 transportation fee.

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Berkshire Eagle, Tues. Aug 11, 1987

## Lee seeks repair money for Beartown Mtn. Road

LEE — The town has requested state funding for an estimated \$80,000 repair of Beartown Mountain Road.

In an Aug. 5 letter, Public Works Superintendent J. Peter Scolforo said the road project is needed for improved access to Beartown State Park and Benedict Pond, which are popular attractions for residents and tourists alike. Scolforo said town employees could perform the work using a rented paver, roller and trucks.

The letter was addressed to Ellsworth M. Sammet, district highway engineer of the state Department of Public Works. A copy was received by the Selectmen last night.

According to Scolforo, the job entails replacing storm drain pipes, widening, paving and line painting along a 1.2-mile stretch of the steep, winding road, which cuts south from

Route 102. The town, he said, does not presently have the money to do the work.

The Selectmen took no action on the funding request. In a separate matter, they voted to send a letter of thanks to William Stanard, who took it upon himself to cut obstructive weeds on the side of the road, according to Selectmen Chairman William D. Bean.

In other business, the board received a copy of a letter from Tri-Town Sanitarian Peter J. Kolodziej to the state Department of Environmental Quality Engineering. In the letter, Kolodziej provides flow figures at the town's sewer plant dating back to 1985.

## Sewer extensions

Noting that a number of building projects are pending before the town, Kolodziej said, "My question to you is, at what point does the state begin disapproving sewer extension permits, and given the existing data, is the town of Lee where disapprovals are expected?"

This spring, town meeting representatives approved \$25,000 for a study of expanding the sewer plant, which is nearing its daily capacity of 1 million gallons. Kolodziej has repeatedly asked for a halt in development until the plant is upgraded.

"I would prefer giving this kind of information to developers at the preliminary approval stages rather than during the final stages of review for definitive plans," he told the DEQE.

Also, Assistant Town Clerk and Treasurer Patricia D. Carlino informed the board that several permits for used cars (\$50), gasoline storage (\$22), and taxis (\$10) have not been renewed for this year. The Selectmen said all permits will be revoked if they have not been renewed by Sept. 1.

## 'Abundance' of cars

The board scheduled a meeting next week with Bob's Automotive of 139 West Park St., which appears to have an "abundance" of used cars on the premises without a permit, according to Bean. Records in the Selectmen's office show that a sign permit was issued to the business in November of 1978.





William J. Carey

**TALKING TOWN MANAGER** at the Lee Senior Center last night were Steven L. Ledoux, left, of Williamstown and Henry J. Hill of Adams. Seated next to them are Selectmen William D. Bean, Christopher A. Salinetti and Diane P. Roosa.

## Pleasure, pain go with job, town managers tell Lee

By William J. Carey

LEE — Henry J. Hill and Steven L. Ledoux alternately compared their jobs last night to those of a corporate executive, a school superintendent and a "paid whipping boy for the Selectmen."

Hill, the town administrator of Adams, and Ledoux, the town manager of Williamstown, spoke before eight Lee residents at the request of the Selectmen, who are considering the possibility of hiring

a full-time town executive for the daily operations of government.

While the turnout for the meeting at the Senior Center was disappointing, the discussion proved absorbing. A number of past and present town officials said they favored the new position.

### State study grant

In October, the town received a \$10,000 state grant to develop the job description and track down candidates. Although a volunteer committee has recommended that a town executive is not needed, the Selectmen have decided to forge ahead with the study.

State Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins, D-Lee, who helped the town win the grant, said the executive "is not only a good idea, but good government." He said a number of issues led him to apply for the money, including the "Kay-Bee Toy fiasco," in which the Lee-based firm decided to move its headquarters to Pittsfield.

If the town supports the executive position, Hodgkins promised to apply for additional grant money to pay the salary for the first year. Under the state program, the town would gradually assume the cost.

"We are the so-called Gateway to the Berkshires, and we have a lot of pressures on us," Hodgkins said in lobbying for the position. "The Planning Board knows it, the Conservation Commission knows it."

Hill, who was appointed Adams' first town administrator in 1983, described his job as that of "a tool, a means to accomplish what you and the community want." Under the town manager form of government, he said, Adams has earned a reputation for its ability to nail down grants and has managed to

consistently reduce its tax rate.

He said the town's accomplishments were the result of "a structure and a means of capitalizing on certain opportunities" rather than the contributions of any one individual.

### 'Good marriage' needed

Ledoux, who became the town manager of Williamstown in 1984, said the key to a successful town executive form of government depends on several factors, including a "good marriage" between the executive and the Selectmen. He said the executive should be versed in town government, have good organizational skills and communicate with "candor and frankness" to the media and public.

Even with these attributes, Ledoux said, an executive often takes political heat, sometimes in the process becoming "a paid whipping boy for the Selectmen."

Touching upon criticisms of the position, he said most town executives are not "carpetbaggers" who cut short their services in one town for greener pastures. He said many of his colleagues generally spend four to five years in one place and leave, at times, because of factors beyond their control.

The International City Management Association, Ledoux said, has a code of ethics that obligates town executives to spend a minimum of two years in their positions or risk censure.

### 'Will be removed'

"If a manager has a reputation of hopping every two years, ultimately he will be removed from our organization," he said.

If Lee opts for a town executive, Ledoux advised that it hire a member of the association and pay a competitive salary.



Stephen Fay

**CEMETERY COMMISSIONER** Frank J. Kelly uses plot map to identify stones toppled by vandals at Lee's Fairmount Cemetery.

## Gravestones toppled at cemetery in Lee

LEE — Vandals toppled 17 gravestones at Fairmount Cemetery sometime Monday night, an act that has prompted the chairman of the Cemetery Commission to ask the Selectmen to post a reward for the apprehension of the culprits.

Chairman Frank J. Kelly said Cemetery Department workmen discovered the vandalism yesterday morning. They told him the gravestones had been erect Monday.

Repair will be difficult, Kelly said, because many of the markers were broken off at ground level, several inches above the base. He said he was very disturbed about the incident and would ask the Selectmen to post a reward in hopes that money would elicit information, much as the offer of a reward assisted North Adams authorities in the apprehension of the vandals who toppled many stones at the Southview Cemetery in May.

Kelly, equipped with a plot map, spent part of yesterday afternoon identifying the gravestones that had been toppled face down.

In fiscal 1988, Hill will earn a yearly salary of \$37,260 and Ledoux \$35,500.

Speaking favorably of the position was Francis D. Foley Jr., a Housing Authority member, longtime town official and town meeting representative. He said a town executive is needed as a "coordinator and communicator" of the various part-time boards.



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Paul Buckley

**POINTS CHAMPION** in the New England Motocross Association this season is 16-year-old Kevin Wadsworth of Lee, shown here negotiating a tricky jump during one of this year's events.

*Berkshire Eagle, Friday, Aug 14, 1987*

## **The motocross kid**

### **Lee teenager Kevin Wadsworth shines on New England circuit**

By Howard Herman

LEE — Motorcycle racing isn't exactly a family tradition with the Wadsworths of Margerie Street.

Unlike the typical Little League father, Jim Wadsworth didn't hand down the sport to his son, Kevin.

Jim Wadsworth, a Lee banker, has never even ridden a motorcycle.

That, however, has not stopped Kevin from becoming one of the region's best motocross riders.

The 16-year-old Wadsworth has spent the spring and summer riding in New England Motocross Association sanctioned events, and heads into an Aug. 23 race in Middleboro as the top-rated rider in the amateur class (which is between novice and expert).

Wadsworth, who will be a junior this fall at Lee High School, completed the spring NEMA series as the amateur class points leader, an honor that moved him into the expert class, consisting of the cream of the crop of amateur motocross racers between the ages of 15 and 18.

#### **Moving up to expert class**

For the current racing season that began in April, he has finished in the top five practically every week, which is why Wadsworth has now been moved into the expert class against racers with twice as much experience as he has.

The NEMA is an amateur group encompassing racers from as young as 5 or 6 to 18. Wadsworth has been a racing member of the association for nearly three years.

He recalls riding mini-bikes around his Lee home when he was only 8, but not getting very interested in cycles until about five years ago. That led to a first — almost chance — encounter with motocross.

"Three-and-a-half years ago we went to a motocross race as spectators," recalled Wadsworth's father, "and Kevin said he'd really like to try it."

After Kevin took a trial ride through the sponsorship of NEMA, the Wadsworths were hooked on motocross and Kevin began racing shortly after that.

In his most recent race, on Aug. 2 in Loudon, N.H., Wadsworth rode in the 125cc amateur class. He finished first in the first "moto" or heat and, despite a flat tire, managed a fifth place in the second heat for an overall third-place finish.

#### **Learning the hard way**

While the course of a motocross race is filled with bumps, hills and dips, Wadsworth has for the most part been able to avoid problems on the motocross course. He has learned the hard way that cycle racing is not always easy.

He broke his collarbone last year, and his finger the year before. Those injuries have not, however, deterred his competitive spirit.

"I don't think about falling. That can get you scared, and then you can make mistakes," he said. "I just hit the course full throttle and want to keep going."



Berkshire Eagle, Tuesday, August 18, 1987

# Full-time fire chief not needed, Lee study committee concludes

By William J. Carey

LEE — The town does not need a full-time fire chief and should remove the position from the requirements of Civil Service, according to a seven-man study committee.

The committee, headed by former Selectman William F. Tyler Jr., turned in its recommendations to the Selectmen last night. As proposed, the recommendations closely follow those of the volunteer Lee Fire Company, which voted on the chief's position several weeks ago.

The Selectmen scheduled a special town meeting Sept. 28 to act on the matter. Playing second fiddle that day will be a proposal that Lee follow through with a \$10,000 state-funded study to establish a town manager's position.

## Fail Civil Service tests

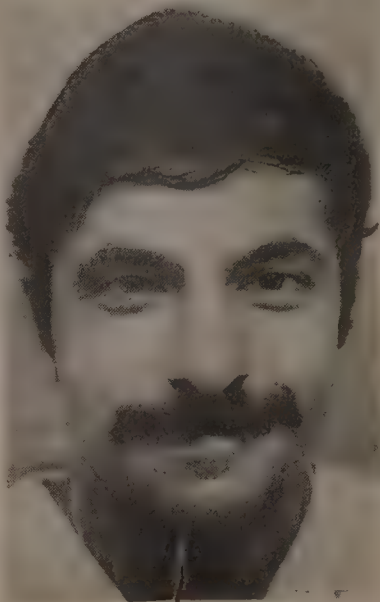
Lazzaro J. "Digger" Buffis has served as acting chief of the town's Fire Department since the death of former Chief Ottavio B. Giarolo in 1984. Since then, several local candidates have failed to pass the difficult, once-a-year Civil Service examination that would qualify them for the chief's position.

On June 29, the Selectmen attempted to accelerate the issue by presenting town meeting representatives with the options of hiring a full-time chief from the list of qualified candidates or of dropping the position from Civil Service, a proposal that was struck down in 1985. The representatives, however, said they needed more information.

In response to the question of whether a full-time fire chief is needed, the committee responded, "not at this time."

William E. Noonan, one of the members, explained, "The town's not big enough. We don't even have a full-time fire department. Who's the chief going to look over?"

Regarding the question of whether the position should be removed from Civil Service, the committee said, "yes — with stipulations." Those stipulations hold that Lee should give its own test, that a minimum of 10 years' service as a firefighter qualify one for the job and that a candidate have a "record of proven leadership ability."



William J. Carey  
Philip A. Skowron

The local test, said member Martin H. Deely, would be "action-oriented rather than academic-oriented."

In addition, the committee recommended that a chief be appointed for longer than one year, that subordinate officers be elected yearly by the membership, that additional money be appropriated for continuing education and that consideration be given to raising the salaries of the chief and top officers, who now receive token sums.

The recommendations mirror those of the Lee Fire Company, which voted against a full-time chief and the Civil Service test while setting conditions for local candidates. Two members of the study committee, Richard S. Ford and Richard Burns, are active firefighters.

In other business, the Selectmen approved the appointment of Philip A. Skowron to fill a long-vacant position as eighth patrolman in the Police Department. Skowron, 35, served seven years on the force be-

fore resigning in 1984 because of negative publicity surrounding an accident in which a Center Street woman was seriously injured.

He was ordered to perform 100 hours of community service by a District Court judge who first found him guilty, and then withdrew the finding, on a charge of leaving the scene of a personal-injury accident.

## Welcomes chance

Skowron, now employed as a production technician at Capfilm in Lee, said he welcomes the opportunity to return to the department. He said becoming a police officer is "something I thought about as a youngster" before he joined the force as a special policeman in 1977.

He and his wife, Donna, live on Pine Ridge Drive. They have three daughters.

Selectmen William D. Bean and Christopher A. Salinetti voted to approve the appointment, which becomes effective Aug. 31. Selectman Diane P. Roosa, who works part time for the Police Department, abstained.

Also, the Selectmen appealed to residents and businesses to contribute money for a reward leading to the arrest of vandals who smashed 17 gravestones last week at Fairmount Cemetery.

Frank J. Kelly, chairman of the town's Cemetery Commission, had requested a cash award to speed the investigation. However, Town Counsel Jerome J. Scully informed the Selectmen that no public funds are budgeted for this purpose.

## Heavy penalty

Last night, Kelly said vandals could face punishment of 2½ years in jail and \$5,000 for toppling the gravestones, some of them dating back to the 1700s.

"I'd certainly like to see the vandals taken to court and given their due punishment," he said. Of the investigation, he added, "We've gotten one or two very vague leads that didn't amount to anything."

Donations may be turned in to the Selectmen's office at the Airolodi Building or the Police Department on Main Street. If the culprits are not found, the Selectmen said the money will be used for repairs.



B10 — The Berkshire Eagle, Monday, August 24, 1987



William J. Carey

**OPENING CEREMONY** for the Lee Celebration Friday was the dedication of a POW-MIA flag by the Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 893. Veterans and town officials took part.

## Lee merchants generally pleased with shorter, leaner Celebration

By William J. Carey

**LEE** — Shorter and visually less crowded than in past years, the two-day Lee Celebration has been termed a success, in conservative terms, by Lee merchants and organizers.

Bruce Kaiden, entertainment coordinator for the sponsoring Greater Lee Chamber of Commerce, said he observed a steady crowd on the streets rather than a large ebb and flow of people.

"I would say the whole thing kept

moving," he said of the weekend slate of activities. "It was a smooth operation."

Lee police also reported a relatively problem-free weekend with only a minor traffic accident near Joe's Diner blotting the record. The police, Kaiden said, "kept things moving nicely and had everything in control."

### Parade eliminated

Unlike past years, the Celebration in large part was not a three-day affair and had no grand finale parade on Sunday. Kaiden said the chamber dropped the parade this year to help defray its liability cost, relieve the busy Police Department and quell anticipated complaints over the closing of Main Street.

Also, he pointed out, last year's parade was conducted in a down-pour. This year, the sun was brilliant on Friday and somewhat less accommodating on Saturday.

The emphasis of Celebration 1987 was to link businesses on the Main Street fringe with primarily downtown activities. Kaiden termed the effort a success, and good crowds were reported at the mini carnival on West Park Street and tent sale at Convenience Plus on the northern corner of Main Street.

Carole Quinn, co-owner of The Corner Connection and overseer of the tent sale, said, "We must have had every kid in the universe there" during the weekend. Popular attractions for the younger crowd were a Chinese salesman with colorful noise-makers and a girl selling T-shirts and cowboy hats.

Though it was "busy" and "kind of crazy" with a horde of youthful bicyclists, Quinn said the 11 vendors who took part in the tent sale felt they would have done better with other merchants under the main tent in the town park.

"I don't think you're going to find it there next year," she said of the smaller tent. "I know I'm not going to recommend it."

Also busy was the six-hour mini carnival on Saturday, which sold more than 100 tickets. The carnival featured basketball, wet balloon and dart throws, face-painting and thumb prints.

"We will be doing it again next year and maybe expanding it," said Mary K. Bradbury of The Learning Center, which sponsored the carnival with Lee Quick Print.

On Main Street, McClelland's Drug Store owner Francis X. Downing described the crowd as "somewhat toned down" than in years past. The old-fashioned drug store featured nickel ice cream cones and discounted sidewalk sale items.

Kaiden said large turnouts were achieved at the bandstand tent by the Berkshire Public Theater, which played excerpts from "Rock-n-Roll Heaven," and bands such as Havana Midnight and the Bluestars.

He said rental fees from the main concession tent in the town square paid for the cost of all six tents used in the town. Other revenues came from the sale of Tanglewood on Parade tickets and a raffled trip to Bermuda. On its part, the town allocated \$3,000 to help pay for police protection.



The Berkshire Eagle, Monday, August 24, 1987 — B11

# Traveling on a wing and a prayer

## Couple bicycle across country to family reunions

By William J. Carey

LEE — Jean McCarthy and Chuck Woletz had two reunions to make this summer: one in Eau Claire, Wis., and the other in Lee. So they quit their respective jobs in Seattle, Wash., packed up their bicycles and charted a course due east.

In the 52 days it took them to get here, after bunking with "friends, family and strangers" and pitching a tent wherever feasible, they found a country diverse in its population yet simple in its unadulterated beauty.

Their perspective may never be the same. The two plan to marry next year and then, observed McCarthy, "You get the old house and car payments."

A native of Lee, McCarthy, 26, met Woletz, 28, while performing a stint for the Jesuit Volunteer Corps. For the past two years, the two have been working individually with autistic and emotionally disturbed youths in Seattle.

### Seized opportunity

The decision to drop their \$200-a-week jobs was not taken lightly, as they had developed a long-term friendship with their charges. But Woletz had a 10-year high school reunion to make in his hometown of Eau Claire and McCarthy was expected a month later for a family reunion at Navin Heights. Instead of

jetting back and forth, they decided to grab the opportunity to pedal the distance.

"They gave me a leave of absence," McCarthy said of her job, "but I just quit. I decided I wanted to do something else and I didn't want to have to rush back."

For Woletz, it was the realization of a desire born during a family trip in 1965, when he observed a pair of bicyclists at the top of a pass in Yellowstone National Park. "That stuck with me," he said of the vision. "I remember thinking: I'd love to do that some day."

### Inexperienced riders

Committed, the two put together \$800 in traveler's checks and left June 2 from an Indian reservation at Omak, Wash. They had biked the Washington and Oregon coasts before, but did not consider themselves experienced riders.

"Basically, I knew how to oil the chain," recalled McCarthy. "Every day we said a prayer — and nothing happened."

Through eight states, including a swing around Lake Huron into Canada, the two managed to avoid flat tires. McCarthy's back tire finally gave out, remarkably, in the Utica, N.Y., area when a confrontational German shepherd caused her to lock the brakes.

Occasional dogs, unfriendly motorists and speeding truckers, especially on the shoul-

derless Route 17 in Canada, were a few low points. The high points, the two said, were the accommodating strangers of diverse backgrounds and simple, rural backdrops.

The bicyclists witnessed a variety of religious beliefs during their trip. They stayed with a Catholic priest in Omak and later camped in the back yard of a woman practicing the Baha'i faith. They observed a Hutterite community in Montana, attended a Methodist service in Minneapolis, stayed with Seventh-day Adventists in Michigan and rode past Mennonites in Canada.

Woletz said fellow travelers adhering to an "unwritten code" advised them of the best routes and sometimes put them up for the night, as in the case of a woman they met with 200 other bicyclists in Washington, who offered her Albany home to them for when they passed through.

### Up to 90 miles a day

The day-by-day trips were long, at times covering up to 90 miles, but infinitely worth it, the two said.

"I liked the small towns — it kind of brought you back to a different time," Woletz said. "Country stores were my favorite. People are so proud of their country stores."

Asked to condense her experience, McCarthy advised, "Just say that it was beautiful."

## Lee hiker sheds 7½ pounds to aid charities

LEE — Four months and 2,000 miles later, Douglas B. Wilcox is 7½ pounds lighter and relieved to be home again in Lee.

Wilcox, who operates Paperdilly Inc. on Main Street, began hiking the Appalachian Trail in April with the threefold goal of completing the trail, increasing his knowledge of fly-fishing and raising money for charity.

The odyssey ended Aug. 15 at Mount Katahdin in Maine, the northern terminus of the trail.

Unable to settle on a favorite charity, Wilcox had invited contributors to name their own charity and buy chances on what his weight would be after completing the trek. Weighing 190 pounds when he started, the affable Wilcox now tips the scales at 182½ pounds, according to his wife and hiking companion, Sally.

Eleven chances were sold for the correct weight. Three named the American Cancer Society as the benefiting organization; two named the First Congregational Church steeple fund. Other correct chances were purchased for the Lee Youth Association, cerebral palsy research, St. George's Church, the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, Boy Scout Troop 45 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The winning organizations will divide roughly \$2,000 in donations, Sally Wilcox said.





SPEWING SMOKE yesterday afternoon was the former South Lee School on Route 102, which was vacant when a fire of undetermined origin began. William J. Carey

## Fire damages South Lee School

By William J. Carey

LEE — The former South Lee School sustained heavy damage yesterday in a fire of undetermined origin.

Three trucks and approximately 30 firefighters from Lee and South Lee responded to the blaze, which was called in by a neighbor at about 3:30 p.m. A second neighbor also pulled the fire alarm at the South Lee Fire Station, located several yards east of the vacant school building on Main Street or Route 102.

Lee Fire Chief Lazzaro J. Buffis said the interior rooms of the one-story wooden building were "guttled

pretty bad." He said the blaze is being investigated by a state fire inspector.

Built in the 1890s, the beige clapboard structure served as an elementary school until 1977, when its three grades were moved to the Central School on High Street. The building was used for the next five years by the Southern Berkshire Educational Collaborative and then sold, for \$10,262, to Willis and Marilyn Fennelly of Route 8 in Otis.

The Fennellys could not be reached for comment last night. At the time of the purchase, Willis Fennelly said he planned to convert the schoolhouse into a residence for

the family.

However, neighbors said the building had long been vacant and both front and back lots are overgrown with weeds. The building itself is situated on a small hill reached by a rough driveway from the road.

Neighbors said it has been rumored that members of The Bible Speaks had shown an interest in purchasing the property. The fundamentalist church, formally headquartered in Lenox, has relocated to Baltimore, Md., although former members have remained in the area.

First to detect the fire was Eleanor Powers, who noticed smoke rising above the treetops from her kitchen window on Main Street just below the schoolhouse. Powers' husband, William, notified the Lee switchboard and then called his neighbor, fireman Rainsford Morehouse, who was not home.

Morehouse's daughter, Elaine, rushed to the scene and saw smoke coming from a window and rooftop vent. She then pulled the South Lee fire alarm.

Buffis said firefighters left the scene at about 6 p.m. He noted "what a good job the boys did — the men, not me," in preserving the structure. Police were called to direct traffic at the driveway entrance and cars were required to drive over a large hose stretched across the road to a nearby fire hydrant.

### B & M whistle blasts rouse Lee residents

LEE — The Berkshire Scenic Railway Museum did not sound late-night whistles Friday, said publicity director John Staber.

Staber said the volunteer rail company received several complaints of loud whistles late Friday and early Saturday morning. The culprit was the Boston & Maine Railroad, which was making an emergency delivery of two cars to the Becton-Dickinson Corp. of Canaan, Conn.

The train is required to sound its whistle at each crossing, he said.

### trooper, Fri. Aug 27, 1987 Trooper investigating cause of Lee fire

LEE — The cause of a fire that damaged the former South Lee School on Route 102 on Wednesday is still being investigated.

State Police Trooper F. Christopher Holmes, a fire specialist with the Berkshire County district attorney's office, said he will investigate the site today. He was called in at the request of the Lee Police.

The afternoon fire heavily damaged the interior of the one-story wooden building, which was built in the 1890s and used as an elementary school until 1977. It was used by the Southern Berkshire Educational Collaborative for five years and then sold to Willis and Marilyn Fennelly of Route 8, Otis, for \$10,262.

The Fennellys are out of town and could not be reached for comment. The building's assessed value is \$76,900, according to the Assessor's office.



B8 — The Berkshire Eagle, Monday, August 31, 1987



**ALDRICH FAMILY** poses for a portrait outside of Stockbridge Road home. First row, from left, are Nick, Susan, Miguel and Allison; middle row, Peter, Andrea, Amy and Jeffrey, and back row, Cathleen and Richard Aldrich.

William J. Carey

## Lee family keeps growing with adoption of 8 children

By William J. Carey

**LEE** — Adoption isn't a big deal with Richard and Cathleen Aldrich.

Unable to have children of their own, the Aldriches have adopted — not one or two — but eight different children of varying ages and backgrounds. Adoption is not hidden from the children, cloaked in cautious terms or, for that matter, even discussed at any great length.

"It doesn't occur to us, other than in a discussion like this, that they're not our children," said Richard Aldrich. "Marriages," he points out, "are made by loving someone other than a biological relative."

Though proud of their diverse family, the Aldriches don't want to be portrayed as saints or publicity seekers. It was Brightside of West Springfield, their favorite adoption agency, that chose to recognize the family last Thursday at a charity golf tournament co-sponsored by Bishop Joseph F. Maguire of the Springfield Diocese.

Brightside is where the Aldriches found their first child, Andrea, in 1972. Now 15, she is a student at Lee High School.

"At that point, we never guessed we were going to have as large a family as we do," said Richard Aldrich. "We probably thought of having two or three."

### 'Our job'

Following Andrea came Peter, now 12, and Jeffrey, 9. All three had similar backgrounds: their mothers were either unmarried or incapable of providing proper care. It was then, Aldrich said, "We started thinking about the larger-than-average family. We kind of thought like this was our job to take care of these children."

Enter Susan, 7, and Allison, 6, who apparently were abandoned by an aunt and uncle at the Holt Agency in Korea. The sisters were delivered to the Aldrich family through International Adoptions Inc., a Waltham-based agent for Holt. Brightside performed the home study and served as a reference.

With increasing restrictions on the children they could adopt, the Aldriches applied for either a hard-to-place, biracial or special needs child. They had grown

attached to one child, thought to be at risk of cerebral palsy, in visits to the home of Mark and Helen Mitchell, who were serving as foster parents. Amy, now a 3-year-old member of the Aldrich family, has since received a positive diagnosis.

Considering one more child, the Aldriches ended up with twin brothers Miguel and Nick, 5, after meeting them at a Brightside outing last year. The two were judged capable of handling the brothers, who are half Hispanic, because of their experience with older children, siblings and different races.

The modern-day Brady Bunch lives in a comfortable, five-bedroom home on Stockbridge Road. The full-time provider is Richard Aldrich, a Berkshire County sales representative for the Atlanta, Ga.-based printing firm, Cutis 1000. The full-time keeper is Cathleen Aldrich, who has brought organization to a potentially chaotic situation.

"If anything, it keeps us young," she said of the work. "Because we just don't have time to think about growing old."

### No financial aid

The couple receive no financial assistance for the children because of their adoptive status. On the contrary, they paid adoption fees to get them.

"If I didn't feel I could care for these children on my own, I wouldn't have applied for them and adopted them," said Richard Aldrich, who has built up his business over 16 years. "It's a motivator for me to work hard."

Explained Cathleen Aldrich: "We live fairly simply. We don't take a lot of trips." In the past, the couple has refused assistance for keeping some of the children prior to adoption because, "We didn't want them to grow up and think someone paid us to take them," she said.

Had they been their own, the Aldriches admit they probably would have kept the family smaller. As it stands now, they haven't decided yet whether it will grow larger.

"Loving these kids doesn't necessarily mean they have to be born to you," said Richard Aldrich. "It's not a big deal in our family."



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**UNDER REPAIR** is one of the 17 gravestones damaged by vandals at Fairmont Cemetery on Aug. 10. The repairs are expected to continue for another week. William J. Carey

## Workman begins making repairs to damaged 'library of stone'

By William J. Carey

LEE — At the back corner of Fairmont Cemetery, where the wind sounds a recurrent rustle in the towering maple trees, work has begun on 17 aging gravestones damaged by vandals Aug. 10.

The person chosen to do the work is a self-described "odd jobsman" named Robert Sour of Cheshire. He uses a combination of mortar, ready-mix concrete and special epoxy to piece back together what nature, and in this case, man, has destroyed.

Sour, a man in his 60s with glasses and a grayish white beard, feels uncomfortable with publicity

and declined to be photographed doing his handiwork in the peaceful setting. But he is willing to talk about the gravestones.

"I've been doing this for awhile, so they're not just stones anymore," he said. "It's like a history course out here — a library in stone."

Yesterday, Sour was sculpting a new base for a limestone monument that had been kicked, apparently, from its pedestal. Inscribed on the face was the name "Deborah Ann, wife of Morey Peters," who died in 1857 at the age of 17.

The weather-beaten inscriptions often are difficult to read, but Sour points out that lighting changes

during the day can have a magical effect on the eyes, clarifying the old messages.

Most of the gravestones in the southeastern corner of the cemetery, where the damage occurred, date back to the 19th century. The northeastern corner harbors older, limestone and slate markers dating back to the 1700s. Some have chilling inscriptions warning the living to prepare for the afterlife.

The 17 damaged gravestones were hit randomly, and many lie face-up in the grass. Like people, Sour said, each one is different and requires special treatment. The cracks also are random — some occurring at the base, others through the heart of the stone.

"These will be good for the next 100 years," Sour said. "That's the best you can do, barring some kids coming up here and knocking them down."

He theorizes that drugs and alcohol played a role in the destruction, adding, "It's a crying shame that kids don't have a conscience."

In order to bring the as-yet unidentified vandals to justice, the Selectmen appealed recently for donations to offer a reward and pay for the repairs. The response, according to Cemetery Commission Chairman Frank H. Kelly, has been disappointing.

He said the commission is paying Sour \$650 for his work, which will have to be reimbursed at the next town meeting.



# Century Cable officials agree to work on expanding service

By William J. Carey

LEE — In a meeting hosted by the Selectmen, Century Cable Corp. agreed Monday to concentrate on expanding cable service to Highfield Drive and Stockbridge Road, perform an engineering study of Sharyn and Paul drives, and solicit new suggestions in a townwide survey.

By terms of a license agreement with Lee and three other towns, the cable company is required to expand its service to certain areas and study the feasibility of others. In addition, it is in the process of upgrading its entire system to a 35-channel capacity, also by terms of the agreement.

John L. Diegel, general manager, said the service extension to Highfield Drive and Stockbridge Road will be "started in the spring," well within the two-year limit retroactive to July 1, when the licensing agreement took effect. However, at the urging of Cable Committee members William J. Maroney Jr. and Joseph F. Puleri, Diegel agreed

to return Sept. 21 with more concrete plans.

## Underground wiring

Maroney questioned why Century has been unable thus far to lay underground wires an estimated 1,250 feet from its existing service to Highfield Drive.

"This is such an important part of your business — to provide service," he said. "If they want service, they shouldn't have to wait until spring for you to dig a trench."

Diegel said he had forwarded requisitions in November to have the work done, but the project was delayed by license negotiations. He added that construction costs, a financial consideration, have increased drastically.

In the case of Sharyn and Paul drives, Diegel agreed to have an engineering study performed in the next four weeks. Puleri said most of the homeowners there would be "willing to sign tomorrow" if the cable installation cost proved reasonable.

At Maroney's suggestion, Diegel

agreed to solicit viewers' opinions in one of the company's regular mailings.

"We would like to have the opportunity to get some direct feedback because we can't see everybody and everybody doesn't call you," Maroney said.

## Condo complaints

In other business, the Selectmen received a stack of photographs from Bradford O. Smith of Reservoir Road, who alleges that employees from The Village at October Mountain are using his abutting property for bathroom facilities. The photographs depict a bucket and toilet paper strewn in the woods.

The Selectmen decided to notify both the condominium development and Board of Health of the situation.

In addition, the board received a copy of an engineering report performed at the request of the October Mountain Condo Owners' Association, which represents homeowners at the East Street development.

The report, prepared by Brown Associates of Pittsfield, states that, "serious drainage problems exist and corrections are required to prevent structural damage to buildings and roads." It recommends a more detailed design study, costing between \$35,000 and \$50,000, and a repair program.

Also, the Selectmen met with David Decker of Decker's Auto Service of Cape Street as part of their continuing program to have junked cars removed from establishments that are not licensed to sell them. Recently, the board met with Bob's Automotive of West Park Street and King Truck Repair of Pleasant Street.

Decker said repair shops often find themselves "between a rock and a hard place" because they cannot get rid of abandoned cars without having a title from the owner. Also, he said, it is becoming increasingly difficult to get rid of tires and other automobile parts.

In the case of tires, he said, "The state has got to do something to calm this down."

Berkshire Eagle, Wed. Sept. 2, 1987



William J. Carey

VISITING LEE yesterday was Lt. Gov. Evelyn F. Murphy, middle, who observed a paper-cutting machine at Boyd Converting on Route 102. With Murphy, from left, are state Sen. Peter C. Webber, R-Pittsfield, Patricia Hanratty of the Industrial Services Program and company president Bronly S. Boyd.



## Boyd Converting gets \$100,000 loan in state program

By William J. Carey

LEE — Lt. Gov. Evelyn F. Murphy completed a swing through Berkshire County yesterday by announcing a \$100,000 loan to the Boyd Converting Co. of Route 102.

Murphy's late afternoon arrival drew a crowd of 15 reporters, photographers, assistants and other state officials to the South Lee firm. After a brief tour of the converting plant, the group mingled over cookies and punch in a small reception room.

The occasion, Murphy said, marked "an important investment by the state" in a small company faced with growth pressures.

Boyd Converting takes paper and non-woven materials manufactured by other companies and cuts it into various shapes and sizes for the medical, electronics and food-service industries. Founded in Pittsfield in late 1979, it was moved to Lee two years later and now employs 35 workers.

### Provide working capital

Bronly S. Boyd, president, said the company enjoyed five years of dramatic growth but has since incurred "a fair amount" of short-term debts. He said the one-year "bridge" loan will be used to supply working capital and strengthen the company for a long-term financial restructuring.

Boyd said the company is also working with the First Agricultural Bank of Pittsfield and plans to apply for additional funding through the Massachusetts Business Development Corp.

"The last two years have been pretty straining for us in terms of our working capital," he said. "You can't grow without cash."

The loan, which will be repaid at the prime rate, was coordinated by the quasi-public Industrial Services Program and made possible through a \$6.5 million Economic Stabilization Trust of the state.

According to a press release from Murphy's office, "The timely application of the Industrial Services Program and its packaging of EST financial assistance averted a highly probable plant closing situation."

### 'Catalyst' for lenders

The loan, it said, provides a "catalyst" for action by other lending institutions.

Patricia Hanratty, executive director of industrial services, said the program is geared toward smaller, more traditional companies facing growth problems from a declining market, foreign competition or other sources. The companies typically employ between 35 and 400 workers, she said.

Since the program was founded two years ago, Hanratty said \$4.5 million in loans have been issued to 190 companies across the state. That money has been leveraged, in turn, by \$22 million from private lenders, she said.

Boyd said part of the state infusion will be used for a sales and promotional campaign to increase the company's exposure to potential customers. Also, the company is building a controlled-environment process area that will make it attractive to high-tech industries on the Route 128 belt near Boston, he said.

## Motorcyclists coming to Lee for competition

LEE — More than 100 motorcyclists are expected to compete Sunday in a daylong endurance competition beginning at R.J. Halpin Inc. on Route 102.

Diane Pavoni, owner of Dirt Works Cycles in Lee and a member of the sponsoring Greylock Riders Motorcycle Club, said the participants will use registered, street-legal motorcycles primarily on trails in the October Mountain and Beartown state forests. The roads to be used are: Route 102, Willow Street, Pine Street, Meadow Street, Tyringham Road, Route 20 and Chestnut Street.

The endurance race, first organized in 1984 and held for the past two years in Dalton, has received special attention from the Selectmen because of a previous motorcycle event that caught the town by surprise. Recently, the board instructed organizers to prepare a press release on the competition.

### Seeks publicity

"I want as much coverage on this as possible," said Selectmen Chairman William D. Bean. "The last time we had a motorcycle race in the town of Lee, nobody knew about it — including the state police, the local police and the Board of Selectmen."

Pavoni said the participants will leave in 4-minute intervals from Route 102, beginning at about 9 a.m. They must maintain a speed of 24 mph, difficult on the trail sections, and will be judged according to their performance against a pre-arranged time schedule. The entire course is about 90 miles.

"The actual competition," Pavoni said, "will take place in the woods."



Berkshireragle Fri. Sept 4, 1987

# Lee 506-condo plan dead; forever-farm status sought

By William J. Carey

LEE — The High Meadows at Lee, a proposed 506-unit condominium development off Stockbridge Road, is off.

Pittsfield realtor Isodore Goodman, head of a partnership that owns the 128-acre proposed development site, and Fairview Street resident Robert J. Bartini, who plans to buy it, have agreed to submit the land for consideration under the state's Agricultural Preservation Restriction program. Under the APR program, the land will be permanently closed to development.

"It will be in agricultural use forever," said Bartini, an abutter who has farmed the land for the past three years by an agreement with Goodman. "It's a hell of a piece of property."

## Shock waves

Last year, developer Norman Epstein of Lynn sent shock waves through the community when he proposed, in preliminary fashion, an \$80 million, 506-unit condominium complex on land across from Wright's Garage on Stockbridge Road. The development would have consisted of 23 residential buildings with underground parking, a large recreational facility with a restau-

rant and lounge, a 150-car parking garage, outdoor swimming pool and tennis courts.

At the time it was unveiled, the High Meadows at Lee was the county's second largest proposed condominium development, trailing only the Jug End Resort in Egremont. Since then, Jug End has been pared down and a larger development, the 1,250-unit Greylock Glen resort in Adams, has come to the fore.

The Lee project would have required a special permit from the Selectmen and variance from zoning bylaws restricting buildings to a level of 2 1/2 stories because of the town's firefighting abilities. Epstein's Boston-based group planned 3 1/2-story buildings and offered the town \$250,000 to purchase a new ladder truck.

However, the development produced a negative response from about 40 Lee residents who attended an informational hearing last December.

Contacted this week, Epstein remarked, "The enthusiastic greeting by the townspeople encouraged me not to go forward." The opposition, he said, appeared to be of an "arbitrary rather than a rational" nature.

Bartini said he has always wanted

the land and began negotiations in the past few months with the aid of state Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins, D-Lee, and George S. Wislocki, executive director of the Berkshire Natural Resources Council. Yesterday, Bartini, Goodman and two representatives of the state Department of Food and Agriculture met in Hodgkins' office.

Goodman would not comment on the proceedings. Bartini said the meeting produced an agreement to have the land considered for the APR program. "I'm very pleased," he said. "Mr. Goodman has been a gentleman about it."

## Development rights

Under the APR program, the state obtains development rights by paying landowners the difference between the appraised value of their property and what a developer would pay for it. Bartini said he has agreed to pay Goodman the balance. He plans to build a family home on the property and maintain a beef operation with land for hay and grazing.

Hodgkins, a sponsor of the APR program, said, "This is exactly what the intent of the bill is — to save farmland that is at the critical stage of being developed." He also praised Goodman's willingness to negotiate for the sale.

During the December hearing, Hodgkins blasted the proposed development for ignoring affordable housing needs. The high-priced village, he said yesterday, "was going to house the second home market to the detriment of the community and the detriment of the environment."

Surprised with the news was Planning Board Chairman Sallie Kate Kish, who heads a strategic planning task force that was formed, initially, to deal with the High Meadows at Lee.

Emphasizing that she supports the preservation of open space, Kish said, "I'm surprised that somebody would get a valuable tract of land like that and not develop it."

Lee town clerk's office on Main Street will be open during the noon hour from now on. The office's regular hours are 9 to 4. The assessor's office will continue to be closed during lunchtime.

"Someday, I'd like to have a normal life again," she said Thursday afternoon, squinting at the pool as if it might be a mirage. "Even more than a swim, I'd really like to have time to read a book."

*Continued from p. 3*

As anyone in the business can testify, running a small New England inn is a backbreaking, 24-hour-a-day job. Usually, it's a labor of love or economic necessity. In the Kishes' case, both. April '85 — Dec '87

Since they first visited Tanglewood in 1971, Sallie Kate said, she and George have loved Berkshire County's scenery and tranquility. They bought Hubby's Cabins, a 2-acre site with 11 cottages at the south end of Laurel Lake, in 1974. From the start, she said, they planned to move to Lee and develop the property into a "first-class lodging facility." But throughout the '70s and early '80s, George was an executive at commercial trucking companies in New Jersey, Michigan, Ohio and North Carolina.

ing at the Black Swan.

The first year was tough, George added. There was a "long, lean winter without any snow" to attract skiers and the problematic matter of a liquor license. The Selectmen denied the Kishes' application twice before finally approving it last month.

Now, the Kishes are confident the inn will be financially successful. They are booked solid on weekends and running at close to 75 percent capacity during the week.

## With the colors

Paul L. Misiaszek, son of John W. Misiaszek of Cheshire, and Martha J. Misiaszek of 248 Grange Hall Road, Dalton, has been promoted in the Army to the rank of specialist four.

Misiaszek is an interrogator at Fort Bragg, N.C., with the 82nd Airborne Division.

He is a 1981 graduate of Wahconah Regional High School.

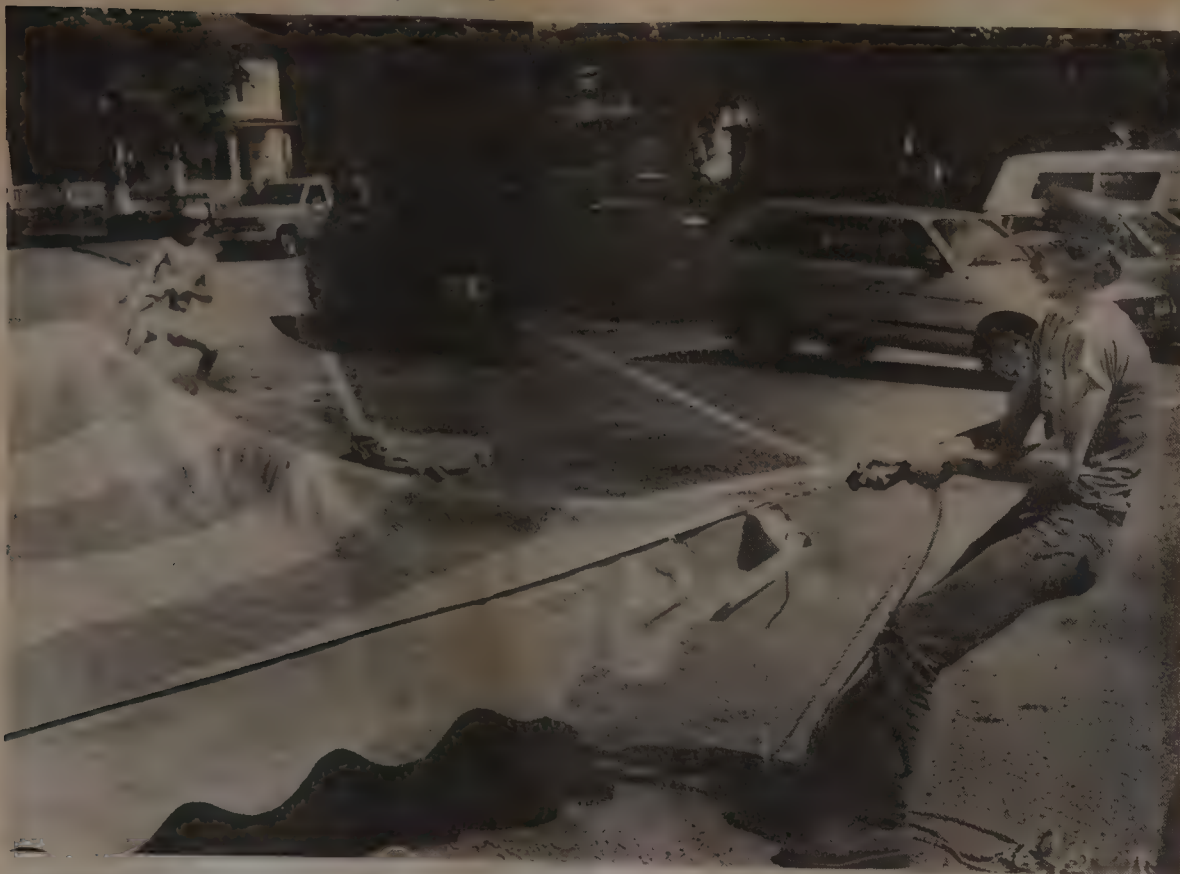
College in Northampton; and Robert, 18, who will be a senior at Westtown School, a Quaker boarding school in Pennsylvania. Robert is helping at the inn and is the only one living in Lee this summer.

As George pursued his career in the trucking industry, Sallie Kate taught in high schools around the country. She also earned a master's degree in education from Columbia University in 1961 and a law degree from Detroit Law School in 1978. She is a member of the Massachusetts Bar Association, but has not practiced in Lee.

Once the Black Swan is running smoothly, she said, she would like to begin practicing law again and become involved with the area chapter of the League of Women Voters. She is most interested, she said, in legal issues involving domestic violence, rape and child abuse.

"It's just a matter of time before I can get active in the community," she said. "Being a breakfast cook is not my idea of a lifelong career."





**PITCHING A TENT** for the Lee Celebration are Bob Steffey, left, and Kenneth Needham of Northeast Tent Rentals in Pittsfield. William J. Carey

## Celebration to feature entertainment

**LEE** — The seventh annual Lee Celebration, which kicks off tomorrow, will be primarily a two-day affair with a heavy emphasis on street-side entertainment.

Musicians, dancers, sidewalk sales and theater presentations dominate the list of activities scheduled for tomorrow and Saturday. The kickoff will be held tomorrow at noon at the Lee Library, with an official greeting, a flag-raising ceremony by the ladies' auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and a performance by the Royal Knights Drum & Bugle Corps.

Unlike previous years, the Celebration will not include a grand finale parade Sunday on Main Street. The Tri-Towns Rotary, however, has planned a pancake breakfast from 7:30 to 11:30 that day.

Nancy Frisbie, president of the sponsoring Greater Lee Chamber of Commerce, termed this year's Celebration "a weekend of entertainment."

But more than pure entertainment, the event is a major draw for area businesses. In an effort to expand the Celebration beyond the downtown area, where most of those businesses are located, the chamber has arranged to have activities at Center and West Park streets. The major functions will be held at the Toole Agency lot during the day, and the town park at night.

The chamber has advised that parking is available at Park Plaza on Housatonic Street, Lee Central School, Lee High School, the Airolodi Building and the Post Office lot. Public restrooms will be available at the Town Hall on Main Street, Carr Hardware and Convenience Plus.

Following is the schedule of events.

**Tomorrow:** Noon, opening ceremonies at Lee Library. At the Toole Agency lot, 12:30, Joan Boyer folk and original songs; 1:30, David Grover and Judy Luneth; 3, Linda and Bob Norris, puppeteers; 4, Irish dancers. At the town park: 2 to 4 p.m., stunts; 5 to 6:30, Big 6 Jazz Band; 7 to 10, Don Basterache Dixieland Band.

**Throughout town:** 10 to 11 a.m., videos for children at Lee Library; 11 to 1, storytelling, poetry, art exhibition at library; 11 to 7, Berkshire Scenic Railway old-time trolley; 6 p.m., Cabaret run.

**Saturday:** At the Toole Agency lot: 11 a.m., Shakespeare & Co. clown squad; 12, Polynesian dancers of Barrington ballet; 12:30, Timothy Wenk-magician; 1, Deborah Morah-Folk and children's songs; 2, Robbins-Zust Marionettes; 3, folk music; 4, Linda and Bob Norris, puppeteers; 4:30, Mechanicals from Shakespeare & Co. "Midsummer Nights Dream"; 5:30, Sharon Taylor-Middle Eastern Dance.

**At the town park:** 10 to 11 a.m., Royal Knights Drum & Bugle Corps; 11, Lee Ambulance demonstration, flute and piano concert at First Congregational Church; 12, Berkshire Public Theater — excerpts from "Candide" and "Rock 'n' Roll Heaven"; 1, Cliff Brodeur Square Dancers, Harry Kilbride & the 3-state Cloggers; 2, Life Team demonstration; 2 to 5, Cornerstone band; 6 to 7:30, Havana Midnight Band; 8 to 11, Bluestars Band.

**At the West Park Street complex:** 10 to 4, Family Fun Festival and food concession.

**Throughout town:** 10 to 4, St. Mary's Tag Sale at Kelly's Funeral Home; 10 to 6, Berkshire Scenic Railway old-time trolley and short runs to Lenox at 11, 12, 3 and 4; 1 p.m., Shriners road demonstration, Franklin Street; 2, Berkshire Scenic Railway train ride to Great Barrington.

**Sunday:** At the Toole Agency lot, 7:30 to 11:30, Tri-Towns Rotary pancake breakfast.

## EAGLE - WED. AUG. 1987 Librarian hired in Lee to succeed Betty Dennis

**LEE** — Georgia A. Massucco of Otis has been hired to replace long-time town librarian Betty L. Dennis, who is retiring in December.

Massucco, who turned 40 yesterday, was selected from a list of 18 original applicants for the librarian's job. She has worked at the West Springfield Library for the past 22 years, becoming children's librarian in 1981. In 1983, she obtained her master's degree in library science from the State University of New York at Albany.

Dennis, 70, first started working at the Lee Library in 1935 and became head librarian in 1942.

"I've got so many irons in the fire

that I'll be back often, but not every day," she said of her soon-to-be retirement. Of Massucco, she said, "I think the townspeople are going to like her. I'm leaving the job in good hands."

The trustees began the search for a new librarian in April, according to Chairman John H. Dolan. A screening committee of J. Peter Scolforo, Milton Gordon and Beverly Foley interviewed five candidates and recommended three finalists to the full, 12-member board.

Dolan said the trustees and Massucco settled on a one-year contract Aug. 10. He declined to reveal her salary, which is funded by town and library money.

"We're quite happy to get her," Dolan said, referring to Massucco's work at the West Springfield Library.

In Lee, Massucco will oversee a \$100,000 yearly budget and current full-time staff of three. She will begin work Oct. 1, with Dennis remaining on the job until December for advice and direction.

"It's going to be hard to follow Betty," Massucco said, adding that, "I'm glad she's going to be there for the first three months."

Massucco and her husband, Richard, live on East Shore Road. They have a 4-year-old son, Timothy.



# Lee officials meet to exchange ideas on variety of issues

By William J. Carey

LEE — The Village at October Mountain, traffic, the town's sewer plant and a communications gap between town officials were topics of a wide-ranging discussion last night among several town boards.

The meeting was hosted by the Selectmen to exchange ideas with their colleagues in other branches of town government. It produced a number of recommendations, many of them identical to those made at a similar meeting of the boards last year.

A familiar agenda item at past meetings has been The Village at October Mountain, a 43-acre, 104-unit condominium village off East Street. Recently, the Selectmen asked all boards to review their work on the development to ensure the town is "covered" when full ownership of roads and common areas revert to the condominium owners, according to Chairman William D. Bean.

Officials were of the opinion that 75 percent of the condominiums are occupied, bringing the issue of ownership to bear. However, developer Philip M. Manger, who entered the meeting late, said after that ownership still rests with the October Mountain Development Corp.

## Drainage problems

The request by the Selectmen came on the heels of an Aug. 18 study by Brown Associates of Pittsfield stating that "serious drainage problems exist and corrections are required to prevent structural damage to buildings and roads" within the village. The study was conducted for the October Mountain Condo Owners' Association.

In response to the call to reinspect all work, David M. Parker, chairman of the Department of Public Works, said, "We didn't and we can't. We don't have any legal mechanism available to inspect a private project."

Parker said the DPW is over-

## Unsworth resigns as chair, member of school board

LEE — The School Committee is seeking candidates to replace member Thomas E. Unsworth, who has resigned.

Unsworth, a respected seven-year member of the board and chairman at the time of his resignation, said he stepped down to devote more time to his family and a graduate level banking course for the Lee Savings Bank, where he serves as assistant vice president. His three-year term expires in May.

Contacted yesterday, Unsworth left open the possibility of a re-election bid in the spring.

"It's tempting to say yes because I enjoyed it and it's an important job to do," he said. "But I just don't know."

Judith L. Olds will succeed Unsworth as chairman; Edward M. Lahey was elected vice chairman. The committee is seeking candidates and expects to make a decision on the vacant position by the end of this month, according to member Margaret M. Biron. The appointment must then be approved by the Selectmen.

The person appointed will have to seek election to a full term in May.

Unsworth's resignation was preceded this spring by the retirement of longtime committeeman Henry G. Greiner, another valued member of the board. Biron said Unsworth will be missed, especially when the committee begins labor negotiations in January.

seeing the completion of four areas specified in a special permit for the development: sewer, water, roads and drainage. To that end, the town still holds a \$30,000 performance bond. The job of ensuring that condominiums are designed properly and conform to building codes rests with the building inspector, Parker said.

## 'No structural defects'

Reading from a letter he sent to the Selectmen, Building Inspector Edward M. Briggs said he inspected the buildings and grounds on three occasions and found "no structural defects or failures." He said the grounds "were warding the water away from the structures," despite allegations of flooded cellars.

Briggs also took issue with Brown Associates' report, saying author John F. Cysz "has recommended design changes that are from visual findings. It is not in the best interest to follow up the comments unless they are documented with calculated facts. I disagree with his findings and it is my judgment that the buildings that I issued certificates of occupancy for are safe for occupancy."

In regard to development in general, Parker said the DPW is "still losing plans through the cracks" because the Planning Board does not inform other boards of proposed subdivisions. Once it receives a plan, the board must act on it within a legally specified time period.

"We're going to end up with things that we approve because we don't comment," Parker observed.

## Computer system

Myron J. Shaw, a member of the Conservation Commission, suggested the acquisition of a computer system that would link all town departments. But others agreed that a simple bulletin board of proposed subdivisions and requested building permits would suffice.

Officials also called for the installation of mailboxes at the Airolti Building, a suggestion originally made in August of 1986 but never carried out. A good deal of mail, they said, is still delivered to the old Town Hall on Main Street.

DPW Superintendent J. Peter Scolforo broached a new issue in calling for a bypass of Lee to ease worsening traffic congestion. Scolforo suggested Lee join with the county in exploring the controversial issue of a Route 7 bypass of Pittsfield. Merchants in the past have opposed the linking of that bypass to the Massachusetts Turnpike, which funnels heavy traffic into downtown Lee.

"Traffic can only get three times as bad as it is now," Scolforo said. "I think the town should get in with the county."

Bean appeared to oppose the idea, saying only that, "Every time Pittsfield gets in a bind, they tend to put it off on the other towns."

## Sewer plant

Board of Health member Lester Clark called for an acceleration of plans to expand the town's sewer plant on Route 102, which is nearing capacity. He was told that bids for an engineering study are due Oct. 9.

"We can't depend on the instant expertise of the lawyers who come in with the developers and say 'this is all right' when it isn't," Clark said.

William H. O'Brien, a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, suggested the town consider rezoning some areas because of the dwindling supply of industrial and commercial land.

Conservation Commissioner Robert C. Bloom was critical of O'Brien's idea, saying he couldn't think of a worse idea.

# Lee Kiwanis Club proposes major sports area

The Berkshire Eagle, Wednesday, September 16, 1987 — B5

By William J. Carey

LEE — The Kiwanis Club last night unveiled a preliminary blueprint of a major sports and recreation complex on 43 acres of town-owned land off Maple and Greylock streets.

The School Committee, acknowledging that the complex is far from reality, responded heartily to the plan with a formal vote of confidence. The targeted land abuts Lee High School to the south and is controlled by the School Department.

"This is one of the finest and most expansive projects brought before the School Committee or any other board in town in the past five years," said Vice Chairman Edward M. Lahey.

Proposed are two football-soccer fields, a baseball

field, softball field, tennis courts, basketball courts, jogging and bicycle trails, playground, man-made pond, swimming pool and recreational pavilion among other buildings.

The project, first hatched 18 months ago, was described by Kiwanis President Shawn M. Smith, club member John F. Cysz and designer Robert B. Macintosh of the Pittsfield firm Bradley Architects Inc.

The three were reluctant to specify a price tag, saying it would vary depending on the ultimate size of the complex and future construction rates. They said the Kiwanis Club thus far has allocated \$3,000 for the preliminary plans.

The money is expected to come from an amalgam of government grants, local fund-raisers and donations.

"There's a lot of funds available if you know how to apply for them," Smith told the committee. But, he added, "It's going to take an awful lot of people working an awful lot of hours to do this."

Macintosh said the endeavor will be worthwhile because the complex is targeted for town-owned land, eliminating the need to purchase expensive new property. Also, he pointed out, the area lies at the geographical center of town, abuts Lee High's existing athletic fields and promises to form an "anchor" for neighboring schools and facilities.

As proposed, the pavilion and other buildings would be located at the eastern boundary of the site, which is the highest and driest portion. The middle, flat portion would be for the athletic fields and the western portion

tion, a wetland area, for the jogging and bicycle trails. The School Committee would have to vote to transfer the land to the town before it could be developed, members said. In addition, the Kiwanis Club has discussed the possibility of having the Lee Youth Association administer the buildings on a full-time basis, Smith said. The club's next step will be to present the blueprint to the Selectmen and other town boards.

While there is no timetable for development, Smith said he personally would like to see a "usable park" for jogging and other activities in the next five years.

"The Kiwanis Club would like to build something tangible in the town of Lee," he said after the meeting. "It all depends on public support and the availability of funds."



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EAGLE - FRI. SEPT. 18, 1987  
**Planners identify Rte. 102 tract  
as best site for industrial park**

By William J. Carey

LEE — Haver identified a 50-to-60-acre parcel Route 102 as the "most promising" area in town for a light industrial park, the Community Development Corp. has agreed to forge ahead with efforts to develop it.

The group held an informational meeting with town officials last night to touch base on their ideas for the property, which is north of Route 102 and east of Highfield Drive.

It was agreed that a major hurdle will be to rezone the parcel for light industrial uses, a move that requires town meeting approval. Although the fringe of Route 102 is zoned industrial, the land behind it is zoned residential and residential-agricultural.

**Other hurdles**

Other hurdles will be purchasing the tract — it belongs to several private owners — and negotiating for an entrance from the road. Members said nearby land owner Seth Hopkins at this point is not interested in selling, placing in doubt the most viable access.

Milton J. Gordon, who serves on the group's siting committee, said Route 102 "is the area that's been looked at for a long while as the most promising area in town."

He named two other possibilities, both off Route 20. They are the property behind the Clark-Aiken-Matik plant and land near the Garity warehouse.

Gordon said the Route 102 site is

one of several being considered for expansion by the Kay-Bee Toy & Hobby Shops Inc., which owns a nearby warehouse. That, he said, could be the catalyst of the larger development.

But he and others, citing the recent move of Kay-Bee to downtown Pittsfield, expressed reservations over a project dependent on the toy company.

Selectmen Chairman William D. Bean said he is "very interested" in developing Route 102 for industry, but in the case of Kay-Bee, "at what price?"

**Feasibility study**

As a result of the meeting, the group decided to apply for a feasibility study grant through the state Executive Office of Communities and Development and to meet with the Planning Board on the zoning issue. The Planning Board already is studying zoning with a state-funded strategic planning grant.

In another matter, the group briefly discussed opportunities for affordable housing. Elton O. Ogden of Berkshire Housing Services, a non-profit housing development corporation based in Pittsfield, said an informal survey of town-owned land off Maple Street, which includes wetlands, revealed that it is not feasible for housing.

Ogden said he was surprised at the scope of a project being proposed on the same parcel by the Kiwanis Club.

On Tuesday, the Kiwanis unveiled

a preliminary plan for a major sports and recreation complex, with several playing fields, trails and buildings, to the south of Lee High School. The club hopes to obtain financing through government grants, local fund-raisers and private donations.

The person who conducted the survey for Berkshire Housing, Ogden said, believed that "ball-parks wouldn't even be appropriate there."

**Bypass effects**

Also, town officials at the meeting for the second time this week brought up the issue of a north-south bypass and its effects on Lee. At a similar gathering Monday, Department of Public Works Superintendent J. Peter Scolforo said traffic will only get worse in town without a bypass.

Referring to the ongoing battle for a Route 7 bypass of Pittsfield, Richard E. Sitzer, who heads the Community Development Corp., warned that Lee, too, should get involved. "We're going to be holding the bag if we don't," he said.

Bean and Scolforo agreed to inform the state Department of Public Works of the town's interest and possibly to hold a public forum on the issue.

"If there's going to be a bypass, Lee should be a part of that decision-making process," Bean said. "We should be covered."

EAGLE - FRI. SEPT. 18, 1987  
**Lee school board votes  
\$7,200 to add bus service**

LEE — The School Committee has voted to appropriate \$7,200 to add a new bus for the kindergarten class and to extend the route of a regular bus.

Stephen Cozzaglio, vice principal of the Central School, said a new kindergarten bus is necessary due to the growth of the class, from 78 students last year to 90 now, and the ground to be covered. He said the bus will cover Laurel Street, Golden Hill Road, Washington Mountain Road, East Street, Tamarack Avenue and Hartwood Road.

In addition, the regular route of Bus 5 will be extended to pick up West and Summer street kindergartners, he said.

According to busing contractor Peter D. Fraser, the yearly ebb and flow of students and the readjustment of routes for safety rea-

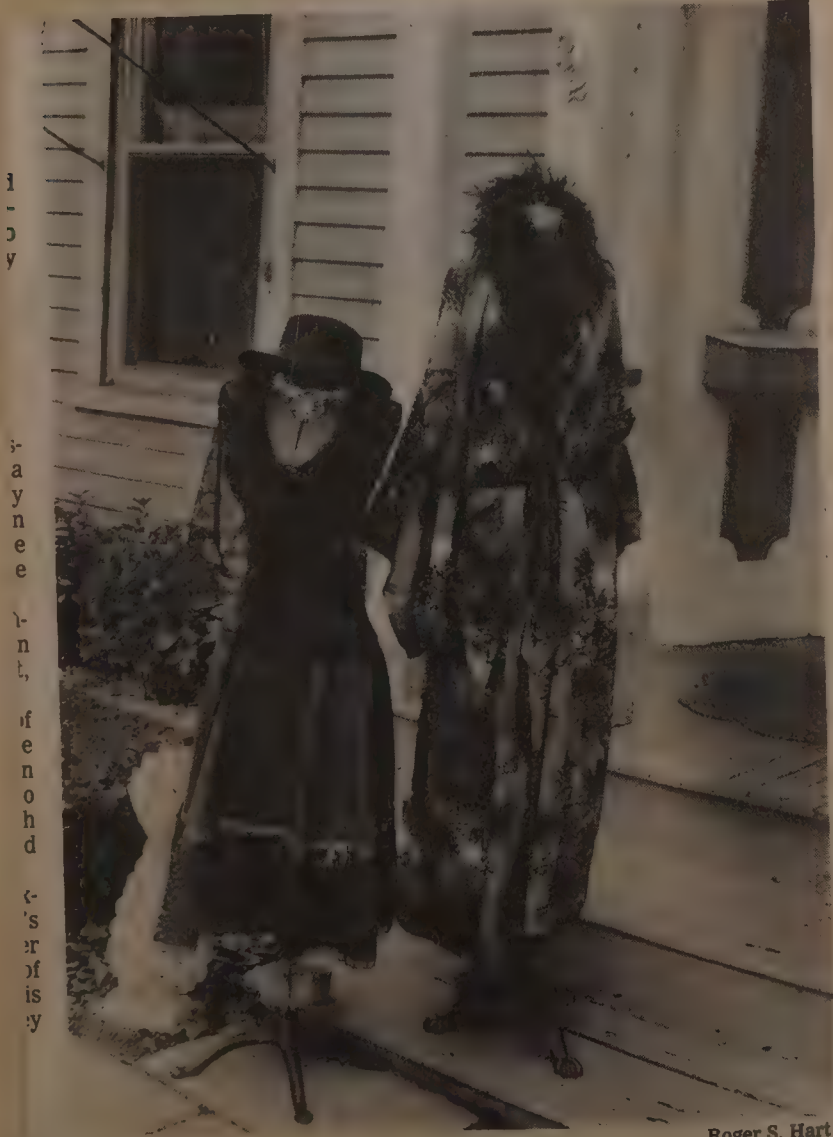
sons are making his job increasingly complex.

"All these relatively speaking minor problems," he told the School Committee Tuesday, "have been building and building."

The committee briefly discussed its responsibility of transporting students from outside the established bus routes.

Cozzaglio said his understanding of state law is that school officials are responsible for children from the time they leave home until they return. "Whether they're on a bus or not is immaterial," he said. "We're responsible under the law."

Asked if the school budget has room for the \$7,200, Superintendent of Schools Clarence C. Truesdell said administrators would have to meet and, "something will give. We'll just have to work it out."



Roger S. Hart

**Head hunters**

Two fashionably dressed mannequins outside the Kingsleigh Bed and Breakfast in Lee appear to be searching Park Street for spare parts.



B10 — The Berkshire Eagle, Monday, September 21, 1987

# 'Clean Stamps' used to promote toxic waste bill

By William J. Carey

LEE — In a novel approach to reducing toxic wastes, the Massachusetts Public Interest Research Group, or MassPIRG, a non-profit environmental and consumer organization, has taken inspiration from S&H Green Stamps.

This summer, canvassers from the organization's Amherst office conducted a door-to-door campaign in several Berkshire County towns to build support for the Toxics Use Reduction Act, which is pending in the state Legislature's Natural Resources Committee. Their gimmick was to have residents sign postcard-

sized "Clean Stamps" affirming their support of the bill.

The stamps, pasted in homemade coupon books, were then delivered to Sen. Peter C. Webber, R-Pittsfield, and Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins, D-Lee. They are "redeemable," MassPIRG told the legislators, for "your endorsement" of the toxics reduction bill.

A whimsical attempt at lobbying? MassPIRG claims that more than 30,000 signatures and the endorsements of 40 legislators were collected in the campaign. In Berkshire County, Webber was presented with 460 signatures and Hodgkins, 256.

"It's just an effective and obviously media-gathering way to get our message across," said Amy Perry, coordinator of the so-called Clean Stamp program.

The Toxics Use Reduction Act would provide industries with technical assistance in their efforts to reduce or eliminate the use of hazardous materials in their production processes. According to Perry it would be self-funded by a tax on the purchase of toxic chemicals as "an incentive to use fewer," and would, in turn, steer companies toward recycling and operational efficiency.

If approved, the act would be administered by the state Department of Environmental Quality Engineering.

"It represents a good, model piece of legislation that I think other states will look to," said Webber. The bill, he said, probably will be reported favorably out of the Natural Resources Committee, but faces an uphill battle in the full Legislature because of concerns over its "intrusiveness" and the protection of trade secrets.

Webber, however, believes the bill in its present form "does a good job" in satisfying those concerns. He said the beauty of the bill is that it seeks a constructive partnership with industry rather than placing the state in an adversarial position.

Of the MassPIRG campaign, Webber said, "The signatures were impressive. It reinforces what we all know — that people are concerned with the issue of solid waste."

That MassPIRG is concerned is obvious. In Great Barrington, Selectman Edward T. Morehouse said his board prohibited the organization from door-to-door soliciting after some residents complained of being "pressured" by individual canvassers.

But Morehouse said he, too, was approached by a canvasser and was not intimidated. "I'm sure there were others who had no problem," he added.

On the Clean Stamps — which are printed on "100-percent recycled paper with non-toxic ink" — residents were encouraged to state their reasons for supporting the toxics reduction bill. Their answers typically referred to children, and the quality of the world they will live in.

"I live a stone's throw from the Housatonic River and I have to tell my children they can't swim there, they can't fish there," said Susan J. Horsford of Lee, who works for MassPIRG on a volunteer basis. The legislation, "is a drop in the bucket," she said. "But you have to start somewhere."



William J. Carey  
HODGKINS AIDE Bruce Garlow displays the "redeemable" Clean Stamps affirming local support of the Toxics Use Reduction Act.





UNDER CONSTRUCTION on Route 102 in Lee is new garage for the state Department of Public Works.

William J. Carey

## State DPW garage being built in Lee

LEE — Construction is progressing on a \$968,000 garage that will house the area traffic and road sections of the state Department of Public Works.

Joseph A. Roulier, a DPW building and bridge engineer, said the 9,000-square-foot cinder block and concrete structure will enable the department to shelter its vehicles without renting local garage space. The building also will be the new headquarters of a Pittsfield-based road crew.

The DPW now has a temporary office trailer and two chemical storage buildings at the Route 102 site.

The construction is being overseen by the state Di-

vision of Capital Planning and Operations. The general contractor is A.R. Green & Son Inc. of Holyoke.

Roulier said the one-story building will be divided into halves for the traffic and road sections with an upper level used for office space. He said the traffic section is involved in the areas of line-painting and snow and ice removal, while the road section takes care of trees, brush, weeds and rest areas. The two employ 16 workers.

Visible from the road, the garage is expected to be completed this spring.

## Lee VFW to break ground for Rte. 102 headquarters

LEE — Capping years of planning, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 893, will hold a groundbreaking ceremony Sunday at 2 p.m. for its new headquarters on Route 102.

Plans call for a one-story, log cabin-type building on 6 acres purchased for \$13,000 from Kenneth W. and Isabelle E. Milligan in 1978. The parcel is next to Mead Corp.'s Laurel Mill on the south side of Route 102.

John E. Farina, commander of the post, said the construction is being funded in part through a \$50,000 loan from the Lee National Bank. Four local businessmen, Richard F. Shields, Richard Dupras, William F. Derrick and P. James Scarfoni, are backing the loan.

The foundation will be poured by local contractor Thomas R. Garrity, and logs have been donated by Michael Viola of Landers Road. The work itself will be divided among local contractors and VFW members — all on a volunteer basis.

The basement of the 3,600-square-foot building will be reserved for VFW purposes while the top floor will be open for public functions. The property also will have a large parking lot.

Chartered in 1922, the local post formerly was housed in the old Knights of Columbus building on Park Street.

Of the new headquarters, Farina said, "I'll be happy when I see it sitting there so I can sit down and relax a little bit."

Dupras added, "It's been a long time coming."

Invited to attend the groundbreaking ceremony are the Board of Selectmen, Lee National Bank President William J. Napolitano, District Cmdr. Sydney Weinstein of Great Barrington, the Rev. Dennis Ford, state Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins, Building Inspector Edward M. Briggs and VFW members.

B10 — The Berkshire Eagle, Friday, September 25, 1987

## Commission finds probable cause in Spinney bias case

By William J. Carey

LEE — The Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination has found probable cause that Sandra J. Spinney was subjected to discrimination when she was discouraged from joining the Volunteer Fire Department.

Spinney, 23, was informed of the finding yesterday and vowed to "follow right through with it." The commission's next step will be to negotiate a settlement, and if that fails, call a formal hearing in which a legal decision will be rendered.

Spinney first expressed an interest in joining the roster of the Central Fire Station two years ago. She claims that Acting Fire Chief Lazzaro J. Buffis originally turned down her application for the lack of a women's restroom in the Central Fire Station and then claimed the department had reached its full complement of 45 members.

She contends that several men were appointed to the force in the

meantime.

After several heated meetings with the Selectmen, which produced an offer for her and others to join the smaller, South Lee department, Spinney filed a complaint with the MCAD on Aug. 15, 1986. Last May, she was invited to join the Central Fire Station with another woman, but declined. Had she joined, Spinney said, the investigation would have been dropped.

Last night, she quoted from the MCAD's finding, which was issued by Investigating Commissioner Frederick A. Hurst.

"This investigation substantiates," Hurst said, "that complainant's sex was a factor in the determination not to offer her a volunteer firefighter's position at the Central Lee Station."

Asked to comment, Selectmen Chairman William D. Bean said, "We haven't seen it yet and I can't and won't comment on it until I've spoken with town counsel."



EAGLE TUES. SEPT 22 1987

# Building inspector orders gym closed at Lee school

By William J. Carey

LEE — The Central School gymnasium was ordered closed by Building Inspector Edward M. Briggs this weekend after two custodians searching for leaks found extensive damage to the roof.

Members of the School Committee displayed photographs of the damage to the Selectmen last night. The committee will hold an emergency meeting on the situation tonight at 7.

James D. Gralla, superintendent of buildings and grounds, said the gypsum and concrete decking of the roof near the exterior walls of the building was found to be deteriorating. The damage was discovered Friday by custodians Kenneth Roode and Neil Merwin, who were searching for leaks in the space above the gymnasium's acoustical tile ceiling.

Briggs, who inspected the building Saturday, said he found the damage "serious enough" to close the gymnasium.

"I really think there's some structural movement there, and until we get it analyzed, I want it closed," he said last night.

## Engineering report

Yesterday, Barry Engineers of Pittsfield viewed the roof and will report on the damage tonight, according to School Committee Chairman Judith Olds. Also present last night were committee members Edward M. Lahey, Margaret M. Biron and Patricia D. Carlino.

Olds said the committee will take steps to repair the roof if no structural damage is found. But if it is fundamentally damaged, she said, a special town meeting may be required to appropriate the necessary funds for a new roof.

She praised the custodians for their "careful maintenance" in recognizing the problem.

Lahey said the gymnasium is important not only to the students but to the Lee Youth Association, which uses it for after-school and weekend activities. At present, the students will be reporting to gym outside the building.

In other business, Kiwanis Club members Shawn M. Smith and John F. Cysz told the Selectmen of plans to build a major sports and recreation complex on town-owned land south of Lee High School. The project was unveiled for the School Committee, which controls the land, last Tuesday.

Smith and Cysz said the future maintenance of the grounds would be turned over to the town, an issue that touched off a brief discussion on liability insurance. Selectman Christopher A. Salinetti said, "I'm sick of hearing about it," but was chided in turn by Chairman William D. Bean.

"It's a fact of life," Bean said, "whether you want to hear about it or not."

Smith agreed with the Selectmen that a committee should be formed eventually to deal with the financing, which is expected to come from government grants and fund-raisers.

## Cable extensions

Also, John L. Diegel, general manager of Century Berkshire Cable Corp., informed the board that

cable extensions to Highfield Drive and Stockbridge Road will begin Oct. 15. He said the construction work should be completed by the end of November.

Also, the Lee Housing Authority has advised the board that Dietz & Co. of Springfield has been hired for the design of 16 family rental units off Marble Street. A meeting to review the design concepts will be held by the authority Sept. 29 at 7 p.m.

Also, the Selectmen read a proclamation designating this week as Emergency Medical Services Week. As part of that proclamation, they offered words of thanks for Police Chief Edward J. Finnegan, Fire Chief Lazzaro J. Buffis and Officer Richard Tart, and emergency workers JoAnne Nunes and Warren Haywood.

## Chapter being formed for Parents Anonymous

LEE — Parents Anonymous, a free self-help group for parents, will open a fourth Berkshire County chapter Oct. 6 in Lee.

The groups meet for two hours each week to compare notes on child rearing, discuss common problems and learn more effective parenting skills. They are led initially by a volunteer from the human services field, who, in Lee's case, will be Jane P. Bloom of Golden Hill Road, a psychiatric nurse.

While the volunteer helps coordinate the meetings, eventually "leaders should emerge from the group," said Judi Czimbala, director of program development at the organization's Boston office.

Czimbala said the meetings are attended by "really anybody." But those who usually seek the group's support are parents who are isolated and "don't have people they can call or rely on," she said, "people who are uncomfortable admitting their anger" in raising children.

The state has 37 such groups, and all meet in unannounced locations because of the stigma attached to people who have difficulty parenting, Czimbala said.

Berkshire County's other groups were formed in 1975 in Pittsfield, the state's longest-running chapter, in 1985 in Great Barrington and in 1986 in North Adams. However, the Pittsfield group has been without a human services professional for more than a year, according to Crystal Scholtz of Clarksburg, the Western Massachusetts coordinator for Parents Anonymous.

Scholtz theorized that professionals in the field are "overextended" and unable to make the four-hour weekly commitment. In addition to attending the regular meetings, they are required to be on call for two hours.

Of her efforts to fill the Pittsfield job, Scholtz said, "I haven't made contact with that one person who is just sitting there, waiting."

Those interested in joining the Lee group should contact Parents Anonymous, which has a toll-free Boston number, or Jane Bloom, Scholtz said.



# Lee school board declares damaged roof 'emergency'

By William J. Carey

LEE — The School Committee last night declared an emergency situation at the Central School gymnasium and voted to have an engineering firm view the damaged roof of the building this week.

The gymnasium was ordered closed by Building Inspector Edward M. Briggs this weekend after two custodians searching for leaks found the gypsum and concrete decking below the roof to be deteriorating. Photographs of the damage and a large chunk from one of the slabs were shown to the Selectmen on Monday.

Pittsfield architect Stephen D. Barry, who was called in to assess the situation, said last night he believes the damage is "localized" and not extensive. However, he cautioned against a "band-aid" solution and advised the committee to have further testing done.

The gymnasium roof, which is identical to the roofs above other parts of the school, was installed in 1936. Although new membrane roofs are being considered as part of a comprehensive review by the School Building Needs Committee, the extent of deterioration to the gymnasium roof took school officials by surprise.

## Water leakage

While a number of factors may have contributed to the damaged decking, Barry said he is sure that "moisture played some role in the deterioration." He said rust marks and other signs of water leakage are evident in the structural network supporting the roof.

Comparing the damage to the breakdown of an oil-burner at the school, Buildings and Grounds Superintendent James D. Gralla asked the committee to declare an emergency situation, thereby making the roof eligible for special state funding.

At present, the state has no money appropriated for school building assistance, Gralla said. But he advised the committee to forge ahead with the paperwork in the hopes of obtaining future funding.

On Barry's recommendation, the committee voted to have Briggs Engineering of Rockland view the roof on Friday, a service that is expected to cost \$500. After assessing the damage, the firm will probably need up to a month to test the roof and recommend repairs, Barry said.

In the meantime, the gymnasium is closed until further notice. Central School Principal Raymond B.

Kavey said the gymnasium and cafeteria are used simultaneously during the day for gymnastics classes, and without the gymnasium, the available space is cut in half. In some cases, he said, a third class may be introduced to make up for the loss of the cafeteria for two hours during lunch.

Kavey called for an additional gymnastics aide or teacher, saying more supervision is required for the influx of children.

## Gymnastics classes

Another possibility, which at first was posed half-seriously and then

encouraged, will be to hold gymnastics classes in the School Committee's carpeted conference room, located just down the hall from the office of Superintendent of Schools Clarence C. Truesdell.

"We definitely are going to have to be pretty innovative in our programs in the next few weeks," said gymnastics teacher Janet E. Pompi.

This year, more than \$12,000 was spent to refinish the gymnasium floor, paint the walls, replace ceiling tiles and purchase new curtains and padding. "We thought we were all set," lamented Kavey.



CLOSED until further notice is the Central School gymnasium. Custodians discovered damage to the roof over the weekend.

William J. Carey

## Lee special town meeting to reconsider fire chief's job

By William J. Carey

LEE — The job of the fire chief will be debated anew Monday when representatives gather to consider a 12-article special town meeting warrant.

The 7:30 p.m. meeting has been shifted to Lee High School due to the closing of the Central School gymnasium.

Two of the articles are identical to those presented at a special meeting June 29. Once again, representatives will be asked to decide whether the job of fire chief should be removed from the requirements of Civil Service and whether \$25,000 should be appropriated to make it fulltime. In June, representatives said they needed more information before taking a vote.

Since then, a seven-man study committee appointed by the Selectmen has recommended that Civil Service should be removed as a prerequisite for the job and that a full-time chief is not necessary.

The town's Fire Department has been headed by an acting chief, Lazzaro J. Buffis, since 1984. The part-time job pays about \$4,000 a year.

In place of the Civil Service test, the committee has recommended that Lee give its own version of the test, that a minimum of 10 years' service qualify one for the job and that a candidate have a "record of proven leadership ability." Regarding the issue of making the job full time, the committee ruled that Lee is not large enough to justify the expenditure.

The Selectmen have not taken a position on the issue and have reintroduced the two articles in order to have representatives make the call.

"In the years I've been on the Board of Selectmen, I've learned to give them options, to give them a choice," said Chairman William D. Bean.

Another article seeks a transfer of \$80,000 from the federal revenue sharing account for the purpose of renovating the Memorial Town Hall. The article may

come as a surprise because the renovation is currently the subject of a \$9,000 study approved in May.

In explaining the proposal, Bean said the town was notified recently that it has until Oct. 1 to appropriate the federal money or lose it.

"We had to come up with an article real quick," he said.

If the money is not used for the renovation, Bean said it will revert to the general fund.

Representatives also will be asked to appropriate \$10,000 for the purchase of a quarter-acre lot owned by P. James Scarfoni at the corner of Railroad and Eaton streets. While \$50,000 was appropriated for lot in May, it was found later to be worth \$60,000. The town plans to renovate the lot for parking space.

Another \$8,000 will be sought for the purpose of testing the Woodland Road landfill for the presence of hazardous wastes. David M. Parker, chairman of the

Department of Public Works, said the state Department of Environmental Quality Engineering has required the testing as part of its directive to identify hazardous waste sites.

However, Parker said, the DPW is taking the position that the landfill contains no concentration of hazardous wastes.

Remaining articles seek: \$4,000 for the building inspector's salary account, \$2,000 from the ambulance revolving account to defray unexpected repairs, \$650 for the repair of vandalized gravestones at Fairmount Cemetery, \$481 to pay for a school crossing guard, \$300 for the town's share of a state-funded town manager study and \$300 for the legal expenses of negotiating a cable television license.

The latter article will be amended to include the town's share of trade advertisements that were placed to find cable competitors, Bean said.

Eagle, Sat. Sept. 26, 1987

76.



## Lee police, Selectmen sign contract

LEE — The Selectmen and Police Association completed months of negotiations last week by signing a three-year contract giving police officers a 15.5 percent pay raise over the life of the agreement.

Negotiations for the new contract began in November and dragged in the past few months as both parties came to terms on wording and non-monetary articles. Selectman Christopher A. Salinetti said the two sides reached a "verbal agreement" in June, when the previous contract expired, to give police officers a first-year raise of 5 percent. The second year will be 5.5 percent, and the third, 5 percent.

The contract affects eight full-time officers below the rank of chief and a number of special officers represented by the Police Association only in the area of shift differentials.

Salinetti said the two sides managed to find a common ground after entering the contract talks with considerable differences. "It was responsible people reasonably disagreeing," he said. "It was no mob scene."

### Holiday pay

As a result of the new contract, officers who work on holidays will be paid double time and a half — "a considerable benefit," Salinetti said. The hourly rate for outside details increased by \$2 to \$17 in the first year, and life insurance coverage increased from \$2,000 to \$10,000.

The two sides agreed to a number of informational articles, including a provision that candidates who receive police academy training at the town's expense will make a two-year commitment to stay with the Police Department. Salinetti said the provision is not retroactive and is non-binding.

Also, the parties set a probationary period of nine months and clothing allowance of \$300 annually for each officer.

Salinetti described the agreement as a "good contract" and said the various features provide officers with "the potential to make a good living." However, he added that he would like to see the entry-level police pay of approximately \$19,500 improved.

77.

## Lee asking legislature to drop Civil Service test for fire chief

By William J. Carey

LEE — Town meeting representatives voted last night to petition for special state legislation that would remove the job of fire chief from the requirements of Civil Service.

As expected, the Civil Service article dominated the agenda of a special town meeting at the Lee High School cafeteria that lasted nearly two hours. But the discussion dealt less with the matter of leaving the state system than with the ultimate process by which the Selectmen will appoint a future chief.

The crux of the issue, said Moderator Joseph M. Toole, was, "Do you have confidence in your Board of Selectmen to make this kind of decision?"

### Amendments defeated

Representatives who didn't have that degree of confidence put forward amendments that would have obligated the Selectmen either to "agree on guidelines" or "negotiate in good faith" with the seven-man fire chief study committee. The amendments were defeated, however, with the understanding that a final ratification vote by the town meeting representatives is required if the state Legislature allows the fire chief's job to be removed from Civil Service. In the meantime, it was agreed that guidelines can be prepared.

Forty-five of 59 representatives attended the meeting, approving all but one article. That article, which would have appropriated \$25,000 to make the fire chief's job full-time, was passed over in light of the Civil Service decision.

Lazzaro J. "Digger" Buffis has served as acting chief of the Lee Fire Department since the death of former Chief Ottavio B. Giarolo in 1984. Since then, several local candidates have tried and failed to pass the difficult, once-a-year Civil Service test to qualify for the job.

Presented with the same options, removing the job from Civil Service and/or making it full-time, representatives on June 29 called for more information. The Selectmen then appointed a fire chief study committee — including two active firefighters — which returned in

August with a number of recommendations.

Committee member Martin H. Deely said there was a "strong sentiment" among the seven members to discontinue Civil Service as a prerequisite. In its place, Deely said the committee recommended that a new test be designed, that Civil Service results be taken into account if applicable, that a minimum of 10 years' experience qualify one for the job, and that all candidates show a "proven record of leadership."

While the committee said that a full-time chief is not justified in a town of Lee's size, it called for efforts to upgrade the "professionalism" of the department through special training, classes and seminars, Deely said.

Among those calling for safeguards in the selection process were representatives Annette Gordon, John E. DeVarennes and Edward M. Briggs.

Briggs, the town's building inspector, endorsed an amendment by DeVarennes that would have obligated the Selectmen to "agree on guidelines and officially document" their method of choosing a chief.

That way, he said, "We're taking some of the politics out of it and keeping it up to rules and regulations."

Asked if they would follow the committee's recommendations, the Selectmen appeared to split 2-1, with Chairman William D. Bean saying he would like to give the job to one of three candidates who tried and failed to pass the latest Civil Service test. Selectmen Christopher A. Salinetti and Diane P. Roosa said they were inclined to follow the recommendations.

### 'Work with anyone'

"We as the board would never go out and choose somebody without a lot of research," said Bean. "We're willing to work with the committee, we're willing to work with anybody. We want to keep this out of politics as much as you do."

Also last night, representatives voted to designate \$20,297 in federal revenue sharing funds for repairs to the Memorial Town Hall and approved the following:

- \$10,000 for the purchase of a quarter-acre lot at the corner of Railroad and Eaton streets. This will supplement \$50,000 appropriated in May.

- \$8,000 for state-mandated testing of the town landfill;

- a transfer of \$2,000 from the ambulance revolving account for future repairs;

- a transfer of \$1,650 from the sale of lots account to repair vandalized and damaged gravestones at Fairmount Cemetery;

- \$4,000 to create a fee-based payment system for the building inspector;

- \$700 to add frequencies to police portable radios;

- \$481 for the purpose of paying a school crossing guard;

- \$300 for the town's share of a state-funded town manager study;

- \$300 for the cost of a special counsel in cable television negotiations.

William Orford, owner of the Morgan House, has agreed to reimburse \$10,000 of the \$60,000 needed to purchase the lot at Railroad and Eaton streets. Orford needs to have parking space within 200 feet of his establishment in order to build an addition.



Thurs. Oct. 1, 1987

The Berkshire Eagle, Th



William J. Carey

**SUPER 8 DEVELOPER** Jack F. Pacak, left, describes plan for new motel last night to Housatonic Street abutter Angelo DiGrigoli.

## Zoning board asks further data on Lee motel's sewer impact

By William J. Carey

**LEE** — The Zoning Board of Appeals last night continued a hearing on the proposed Super 8 Motel in order to gather information on the town's sewer capacity.

The hearing was rescheduled to Wednesday at 7 p.m., giving the developer, Northeast Hospitality Inc. of Montgomery, N.Y., time to meet with the Department of Public Works. It was estimated last night that roughly 3,200 gallons of sewer flow would be produced daily by the new motel.

### 67 units involved

Northeast Hospitality is proposing a 67-unit building on 3 acres owned by the estate of Adelarde J. Laliberte at 128 Housatonic St. The developer has received an order of conditions from the Conservation Commission and now needs a permit from the ZBA to build in a flood plain.

Plans call for an early November construction start with completion by next spring.

Concerns over hitting the sewer ceiling — the town's sewer plant is at roughly 80 percent of capacity — have presented a stumbling block for developers and given rise to past calls for a building moratorium. ZBA member Peter R. Biasin last night said he wanted the sewer impact known before taking a vote on the motel.

Marilyn K. Sullivan, owner of the Sullivan Station restaurant, told the board that she was unable to build an eight-unit complex primarily because of the sewer issue.

Eight residents and abutters at-

tended the 90-minute hearing. Northeast Hospitality was represented by its president, Jack F. Pacak; Robert G. Brown, an engineer with Accord Diversified Consultants of Tyngham; and Arnold Scaramuzzi of Lee, who is acting as a broker for the Laliberte estate and a consultant to the developer.

Pacak said the Laliberte property was chosen because of its proximity to the Massachusetts Turnpike, the increasing traffic counts on Housatonic Street and the fact that no other chain-affiliated motel exists in Lee.

He denied that Super 8 would compete unfairly with two locally owned motels, the Sunset and Pilgrim, saying a Boston consulting firm had determined that most business travelers are bypassing Lee for other chain motels in Lenox and Pittsfield. Super 8, he said, plans to attract those travelers.

"We're not replacing the market here in Lee," he said. "We're displacing it from other parts of the region."

Pacak also cited motel industry statistics revealing that \$8 is spent on local goods and services for every \$1 spent on lodging. Scaramuzzi said the town stands to gain from a "million-dollar taxable property" that intends to employ 20 workers.

In addition to the sewer issue, residents and ZBA members questioned the motel's impact on Housatonic Street traffic and beautification efforts. Selectman Christopher A. Salinetti, brandishing a copy of the town's zoning bylaws, challenged the developer on a number of points. Salinetti stipulated that he was "just talking out loud" and had no position on the motel.

### Pledges to blend in

Pacak said he is willing to have a traffic study performed if requested by the board. He said he knows of the beautification effort and plans to conform with the neighborhood by maintaining trees and pedestal-based signs in front of the motel.

After listening to the discussion, Brown said he was concerned that ZBA members might broaden the scope of their review when the developer was seeking a regular permit, not a special permit or variance, to build in a flood plain. Brown said there is a "very narrow criterion of what is to be addressed," adding, "I guess I was surprised to hear about landscaping and traffic and impacts of this nature."

"When you come in for a permit, for whatever reasons, you open yourselves up to complete scrutiny of your entire project," responded Salinetti. "That's where the other things fall into place."



B10 — The Berkshire Eagle, Thursday, October 1, 1987



PILE OF PARTS is displayed by garage owner Steven E. Cabral, who would very much like to get rid of it. William J. Carey

## Junk cars are like garbage: They're hard to dispose of

By William J. Carey

LEE — When the Selectmen asked local garage owners to clean their yards of junked cars, a Pandora's box was opened.

Unfortunately, complained the garage owners, there is nowhere to put many of those cars because junkyards refuse to accept them without a legal title. And virtually nobody wants gas tanks, exhaust systems and tires anymore because it doesn't pay to haul them to accommodating landfills or recycling facilities.

"It's a vicious circle," said Robert W. Brunell of R.W.'s Towing on Housatonic Street. "It's like the garbage — what are you going to do with it?"

With that message in hand, the Selectmen have scheduled a meeting tonight at 7:30 in the Senior Center to discuss possible solutions. The meeting is open to all towns, with state Sen. Peter C. Webber, R-Pittsfield, state Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins, D-Lee, and the Berkshire County Regional Planning Commission expected to attend.

By all accounts, Lee's garages, repair shops and towing firms will be represented, too, and many owners want to hear what the state has to offer.

"It's getting kind of sticky," said Steven E. Cabral of Cabral's Auto Body, another Housatonic Street firm. "It really seems like the government has to come together and deal with this."

Cabral said his major problem is getting rid of sheet metal, gas tanks, exhaust systems and tires. In some cases, he charges the insurance companies to dispose of them, in other cases, the car owner. Many times, Cabral said, he simply refuses to keep the old parts — leaving the headache of disposing them to the owner.

"I've seen people throwing gas tanks in Price Chopper's dumpsters," he said. "It's giving repair shops a bad name, but they don't deserve it."

Brunell's firm, one of the largest towing operations in the area, has a contract with the state to pick up abandoned cars on the Massachusetts Turnpike. The typical situation, he said, involves college students with a "\$300 car and a \$600 radio." After driving the car into the ground and stripping the radio, "they leave the car with us," he said.

Wilson Wright Jr. of Wright's Garage on Stockbridge Road offers a variation of the story. Two cars have been sitting at his lot for several years, one that re-

quired \$300 worth of repairs and a second that failed to pass inspection and needed an expensive engine job.

The owner of the second car "said he'd think about it," Wright said. "He must still be thinking about it."

At any given time, R.W.'s has on hand between six and 10 cars — Brunell calls them "carcasses" — without their respective owners. By law, junkyards will not accept unclaimed vehicles under 10 years old without a title. A bill of sale in some form is required for older cars, he said.

Once the owners are pinpointed through a vehicle identification number, the process of tracking them down begins. Barbara Brunell said she spends about a

*'Some of the cars aren't worth this nonsense.'*

day a week at the task, sending out \$1.67 registered letters at intervals of seven, 30 and 60 days.

David T. Dobson of Dave's Import Service on West Park Street currently has two abandoned cars on his lot, one of which has been there for three years. Short of going to court, he said, there is no way to force the owners to reclaim their cars or transfer ownership.

"You write them letters and letters and they just don't respond," he said. "Some of the cars aren't worth this nonsense."

Drake's Auto Parts of Meadow Street will not accept unclaimed cars without the necessary paperwork, confirmed manager Gerald E. Drake. Until it finds an arrangement to dispose of tires — burning them is illegal in Massachusetts — the salvage yard is "stacking them or giving them away," he said. Exhaust systems and other parts are hauled away by Commercial Disposal of West Springfield.

"It's just another waste element that we don't have a solution to right now," observed Robert L. Spencer of the BCRPC. The ideal situation, he said, would be to have a series of landfills with various reclamation facilities to cut down on the overall volume of waste. Those types of facilities simply don't exist in Berkshire County, he said.

"It's a tough one," he said. "I don't have any answers."



# Garage owners get together in effort to solve junk woes

By William J. Carey

**LEE** — Six garage owners volunteered last night to form a committee that will deal with the multiple dilemmas of ridding junked cars, batteries, tires, mufflers, gas tanks and motor oil.

Thirty garage owners and others met with town, state and county officials to discuss those dilemmas, which came to light after the Selectmen called for a general cleaning of local yards. The response was twofold: Junkyards refuse to accept unclaimed vehicles without a legal title, while repair shops get stuck with old parts that in some cases are hazardous, and in all cases, increasingly expensive to dispose of.

One outcome of the meeting was the distribution of a list containing nearly 30 outlets, none in Berkshire County, that will accept junked automobile parts and other items. But John F. Jones of Lee Texaco on Housatonic Street told officials they were "missing the boat" in suggesting outside firms.

## Disposal costs up

Jones said he started feeling the pinch when the town closed its landfill to all but residential users in 1985. At that time, he was paying \$25 a month to dispose of old parts. Now, he pays \$100 a month.

"What you people did is you arbitrarily decided, 'Our landfill is full and we don't want to deal with it,'" Jones said. "We are small-business men trying to make a living. We can't afford thousands and thousands of dollars to get rid of this stuff."

Public Works Superintendent J. Peter Scollforo said the landfill will be reopened to all users once an expansion is completed — but in the case of tires, for a price. Scollforo said later that facilities for glass, paper and other items will be established at the expanded landfill.

Jones said he also has the problem of getting stuck with abandoned cars, especially after responding to accidents. Robert and Candie Brunell of R.W.'s Towing on Housatonic Street said they have between six and eight cars on hand at all times, many from the Massachusetts Turnpike. State police can identify the last owners, but tracking them down is left to the towing firm, the Brunells said.

Selectman Christopher A. Salinetti said he detected a reluctance by the group to form a problem-solving committee. Urging them to volunteer, he asked, "Can a group of individuals with a common goal accomplish something?"

Not necessarily, was the response. Gerald E. Drake of Drake's Auto Parts, an auto salvage firm on Meadow Street, said, "each problem has a counter-problem" just as each car has four tires, a battery, muffler and gas tank.

## Stopped by DEGE

In the case of gas tanks, Drake said he managed to have Commer-

## Voter registration set for special meeting

**WASHINGTON** — A voter registration session will be Monday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 10 p.m. in preparation for a special town meeting Oct. 19 at 8 p.m.

The session will also be to register new voters interested in the special town election Oct. 24 to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Diane Young. The two candidates are William D. Cawley Jr. and Frederick M. Oliver.

Five articles are on the warrant for the special town meeting, including one seeking the transfer of \$3,508 from free cash for unpaid bills. Another would transfer \$276 received as payment for transfer station stickers into the Board of Health expense account.

Voters will also be asked to authorize the Selectmen to apply for \$150,000 in grants for work on Cross Place, Lower Valley, Johnson Hill Blotz and Washington Mountain roads.

Article 4 asks voters to change the name of the Washington School, at the corner of Route 8 and Stone House Road, to the Washington Town Hall.

cial Disposal of West Springfield haul them from his yard. But the trucking firm ran into problems with the state Department of Environmental Quality Engineering because the crushed tanks contained water.

"I found an outlet, I found transportation, and I still got stopped," he said.

Weber agreed that state agencies are being "overly technical" with disposal issues and suggested that a "reasonable response" is called for.

After gaining assurances of town support, six people signed up for a committee that will investigate the needs of local garages and develop solutions. They are: Jones, Robert and Candie Brunell, Raymond King of King Truck Repair, Phil Townsend of Townsend's Mobil on Housatonic Street, and Ernest Sutton of Southern States Used Cars, also on Housatonic Street.

State Sen. Peter C. Weber, R-Pittsfield, spoke at length about new state legislation that will aid communities in ridding their garbage and siting new disposal facilities.

"We don't have easy solutions to any of these solid waste problems," he said. "It's all going to come down to having sites that communities will accept."

# Lee church starts new drive to raise restoration funds

By William J. Carey

**LEE** — Organizers have marked today as the start of a renewed fund-raising campaign dedicated to raising \$50,000 for the restoration of the historic First Congregational Church.

Whereas past efforts have emphasized the condition of the church spire, which is listing visibly to the east, the present fund-raiser seeks to obtain funding for the entire wooden facade of the building. Also welcome are in-kind services such as, "wood, nuts, bolts, screws — anything," said the Rev. Walter S. Ryan, former pastor of the First Congregational Church.

The church, a prominent beacon of the town, was built in 1857. Lightning destroyed the original spire, which was rebuilt in 1918. The spire again sustained damage this spring when heavy winds knocked several boards free, leaving a 30-

foot-long gap on the westerly side. The boards were replaced using a large J.H. Maxymilian crane.

Detailed architectural drawings of the spire have been completed by Hill Engineering of Dalton. In the firm's investigation of the structure, Ryan said it was discovered for the first time that cross beams supporting the foot-square wooden pillars of the spire are bending and must be strengthened.

The drawings should aid the church in applying for matching restoration funds through the Massachusetts Historical Commission. The church was turned down for state funding last year and has since re-applied for the spring 1989 funding round. However, Ryan said there is enough money from private donations to begin the crucial spire repair this fall. To date, about \$8,000 has been raised, much of it through the efforts of a multi-denominational Save the Steeple Committee. Another \$10,000 is expected from the Edward Roland Christenson endowment.

## Seek bids

With that money available, the spire job will be put out to bid Oct. 10. The bid deadline is Nov. 15 with a contract award expected by Nov. 25.

The current fund-raiser is meant, literally, to bring the restoration down to ground level and create an ongoing maintenance fund. Ryan said organizers would like to see the entire facade, from top to bottom, refurbished by mid-July.

"We're going to appeal far and wide to people who might be interested," he said of the current effort.

Eagle, Mon. Sept. 28, 1987

80 d

# Gumman robs package store in East Lee

Tuesday, October 6, 1987 — B9

Eagle

**LEE** — Police are seeking a man who robbed the East Lee Package Store of an undetermined amount of cash last night, firing a shot in the process.

According to Officer Joseph F. Buffis, a white male of heavy build in his late 20s entered the store and at gunpoint told a clerk to hand over the contents of the cash register. About 5 feet 8 inches tall, the gunman was wearing a stocking over his face, a dungaree jacket and possibly black leather gloves.

After handing over the money, the clerk, whom police did not want to identify, lay on the floor as he was told. The robber fled on foot after firing the small-caliber gun once. Police later found a bullet lodged in a carton of cigarettes, Buffis said.

The incident occurred at 8:21 and is still being investigated.



Eagle, Thursday, Oct. 8, 1987

# Central School roof consultant expected to advise replacement

By William J. Carey

LEE — The engineering firm that inspected the Central School roof is expected to recommend that two sections, above the gymnasium and center wing, be replaced.

Reporting to the School Committee on Tuesday, Buildings and Grounds Superintendent James D. Gralla described the roof situation as "pretty bleak." The major question now facing the committee, he added, "is when to attack the problem."

## Closed in September

The school gymnasium was ordered closed by Building Inspector Edward M. Briggs Sept. 19 after two custodians searching for leaks discovered damage to the gypsum and concrete decking below the roof. Three days later, the School Committee declared an emergency situation and voted to have Briggs Engineering of Rockland view the building.

The results of the study, which cost \$1,150, have been mailed by Federal Express to architect Stephen D. Barry of Pittsfield, who was called in for a preliminary inspection of the roof. The School Committee has scheduled a special meeting Tuesday night at 7:30 to discuss those findings.

Based on his discussions, Gralla said Briggs Engineering will recommend that both the gymnasium and center wing roofs be replaced. He said the gymnasium roof was found to be in "very bad condition," while the roof above the center wing is better preserved and not structurally deficient.

If the town fails to act before winter sets in, the firm is concerned that "temporary measures be taken" to bolster the gymnasium

roof, Gralla said.

By declaring an emergency situation, the School Committee hopes to obtain special state funding for building repair. Gralla said an official of the state Department of Education recently toured the building and confirmed the status of the 51-year-old roof. However, the state has not yet appropriated money for school building assistance, he said.

In other business Tuesday, the committee voted unanimously to recommend that longtime former member Joseph C. Savery of Stockbridge Road be appointed to fill the position vacated by Thomas E. Unsworth, who has resigned from the committee. Two other candidates, Mary Ann Grady of David Avenue and Dennis Mountain of Summer Street, were interviewed for the job.

Savery, 61, is a 16-year veteran of the Lee committee, past president of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees and former member of the state Board of Education. He is employed as the manager of real estate operations for Northeast Utilities.

The School Committee, emphasizing that its decision was a difficult one, followed a recommendation by High School Principal Henry T. Zukowski that Grady and Mountain be appointed to the school's improvement council.

The appointment of Savery must be approved by the Selectmen. Unsworth's three-year term is scheduled to expire in May, at which time Savery would have to seek election.

## Working off damage

Also, the committee in a split vote followed a motion by member Patricia D. Carlino to have three 12-year-olds work off half the amount of damage caused by a June 27 in-

cident of vandalism at Central School. Their parents will be required to make up the difference of the damage, estimated at \$600.

The youths reportedly spray-painted their names on the school roof and damaged a number of slate tiles.

School Superintendent Clarence C. Truesdell said one of the parents appealed to him to reduce the full charge, a request he found "reasonable" due to the aging condition of the roof. Truesdell said it could be demonstrated to the youths that "rational minds are at work, people have considered this, and this is what they think."

Carlino's motion to reduce the charge with labor was supported by Chairman Judith L. Olds and member Edward M. Lahey. Carol E. LePrevost was opposed, while Margaret M. Biron abstained.

Also, Richard G. LaBrie, executive director of the South Berkshire Educational Collaborative, reported on the progress of a state-mandated revision of the collaborative agreement. LaBrie said the agreement, first written 11 years ago, has been amended once.

A meeting of the four participating districts has been scheduled for Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at Lee High School to approve the revised agreement.

## Librarian Robert Newman plans to retire next year

Robert G. Newman, the city's librarian for 34 years, announced yesterday that he will retire, effective June 30, 1981.

Newman concluded his report to the trustees of the Berkshire Athenaeum at their annual meeting with the announcement, saying that serving in the post has been "a rewarding experience."

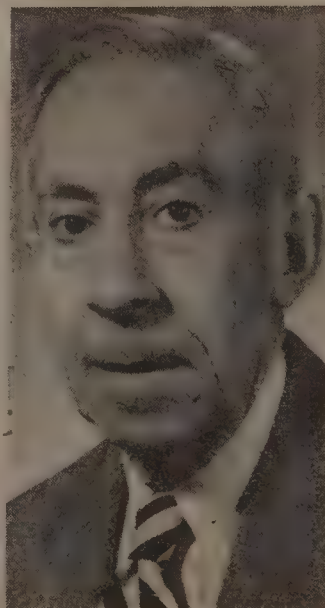
After the meeting, Newman, 68, said that he "will have completed 35 years in the job next year, and I think it's time to retire."

He said he plans to relax, pursue his interests and "catch up on reading."

He expressed gratitude for the support of president of trustees Thomas Plunkett, past president Amy Bess Miller and all the trustees over the years.

An ardent admirer and keen student of Herman Melville, Newman was instrumental in establishing the Herman Melville Memorial Room at the athenaeum. In 1978, he was elected to a one-year term as president of the 500-member Melville Society, an international organization made up of enthusiasts and scholars of the 19th century author of "Moby-Dick."

Newman succeeded Lewis Mumford, distinguished literary critic and Melville biographer, as president. The presidency, the chairman of the nominating committee wrote Newman, traditionally goes to someone who has shown particular dedication to Melville study, usually by contributing to Melville scholarship by considerable scholarly writing of his own. Newman said then that his own writing on Melville has been "a few very minor articles in professional publications." But according to the chairman, "few people in recent years have shown as much dedication and have devoted as much time to making Melville more accessible, both to the public and to scholars, as you have with your extensive and



Robert Newman

fruitful work in the athenaeum."

Frequently described as quiet and unassuming, Newman was nevertheless a prime mover in the creation of the new brick athenaeum built at the corner of East Street and Wendell Avenue at a cost of \$2.5 million. At its dedication in October 1975, the building's 400-seat multi-purpose room was named for Newman.

Newman has been librarian since 1946. Previously he had worked at the athenaeum for 6½ years under previous librarian Francis G. Henshaw. He enlisted in the Army three days after Pearl Harbor in 1941 and was honorably discharged with the rank of captain.

## Long Island native

Born in Garden City, L.I., Newman lived here most of his life. Unmarried, he makes his home at 23 Shetland Drive. His father, the late George A. Newman, a lawyer, and his mother, the late Rosetta Newman, an artist, were both well known in the community. He is the fourth generation of his family to serve as trustee of Temple Anshe

Amunim, which his great-grandfather, Joseph R. Newman, helped found, and which named him Man of the Year in 1973.

A 1929 graduate of Pittsfield High School, he received a bachelor of arts degree from Dartmouth College in 1934 and a master of arts degree from the Harvard graduate school of arts and sciences in 1935. He had completed all but six weeks' work for his degree of bachelor of science in library service at the Columbia University school of library science when he entered the Army. He finished off the requirements in 1946 after being named librarian here. His appointment was strongly supported by the unions here, which said they favored Newman over the other leading candidate, an out-of-town man who eventually withdrew his application after a deadlock of several weeks.

Newman has been clerk of the Honor Roll Commission, chairman of the 1949 School Survey Commission, and chairman of the City History Commission. He also served on the Bicentennial Committee and has been a director of the former Coolidge Hill School, the Rotary Club and the Automobile Club, a trustee of the City Savings Bank and the former St. Luke's Hospital and a member of the Central Pittsfield Development Panel. He has also served on the Berkshire County Historical Society advisory council and as secretary of Shaker Community Inc., which he serves as trustee.

A member of the American, New England, Western Massachusetts and Massachusetts library associations, Newman has headed the state association and the Western Massachusetts library club and has served as an official in several professional organizations.

Athenaeum trustee president Plunkett said last night that he would soon form a committee to help choose a successor for Newman.



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## Eagle, Mon. Nov. 2, 1987 Proposed smoking regulations to have hearing tonight in Lee

By William J. Carey

LEE — Restaurant owners favor the principle but some question the practice of proposed regulations that would require non-smoking areas in restaurants and other facilities used by the public.

The Board of Health will conduct a public hearing on the regulations tonight at 7:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. It has the power to enforce them under state law.

If the regulations are approved, Lee would be the second town in Berkshire County to adopt prohibitions on smoking. Williamstown was the first. In May, Lee voted 444-285 in favor of establishing such rules in a non-binding referendum question.

### Penalties for non-compliance

The proposed regulations would compel restaurants to set aside 25 percent of their seating capacities for non-smokers and would establish penalties for both smokers and proprietors who fail to comply. Restauranters could, however, seek a variance from the Board of Health if the rules caused a hardship.

In addition to eateries, the regulations would require the library, municipal buildings and other places serving the public to set aside equal space for non-smokers.

"I bet you 50 percent of the people would probably choose non-smoking," said Dr. Charles W. Stratton, health board chairman. "More people are giving it up now."

While restaurant owners generally favored the regulations, some said that applying them would be difficult because of the size and layout of their establishments. Kathleen Cleary, who operates the Cork N' Hearth on Route 20 with her husband, Michael, said the couple would be "very interested" in seeking a variance. The two do not smoke themselves.

"We're not thrilled about the regulations," she said. "It's going to pose a lot of problems."

### Complicates reservations

The main dining room of the Cork N' Hearth, which seats about 120, looks out over Laurel Lake. If the room was to be divided, Cleary said, one group would probably be barred from the favored window seats. Also, reservations would be more time-consuming and difficult to take over the phone, especially in the case of groups, she said.

William Orford, owner of the Morgan House on Main Street and a non-smoker, also expressed reservations. He said he is sympathetic to the principle behind the regulations but is concerned about the hardship imposed on smaller establishments. The Morgan House seats 75.

"We don't have a lot of flexibility," Orford said.

Joseph F. Sorrentino, owner of Joe's Diner at Main and Center streets, said a small restaurant like his, with 14 stools and three tables, would have to post a "No Smoking" sign right at the front door because the dining area is too small to divide.

However, he favors the regulations and is inclined to post that sign.

"I think it's a great thing. Who wants to sit next to someone who is smoking?" Sorrentino asked. "I have nine people in my family, and nobody smokes."

### Rossi's owners approve

Also in favor are Rossi's Restaurant owners Jeanne and Paul Brown, who said they are prepared to set aside a non-smoking area at the Main Street establishment. Rossi's seats a total of 92.

"I think us smokers probably offend the non-smokers, and there

should be an area set aside for them," said Jeanne Brown.

According to the regulations being proposed in Lee, smoking areas may take up no more than 75 percent of a restaurant's seating capacity. Non-smoking areas must be protected by a physical barrier, a ventilation system or both. The library, municipal buildings, nursing homes and other facilities catering to the public must provide "comparable" space for non-smokers.

A smoker who breaches the dividing line would be subject to a fine of \$10 to \$30 for each offense. Proprietors who fail to make "reasonable efforts" to regulate smoking would be subject to a fine of \$10 to \$100. Those who disregard the regulations would face a fine of up to \$200 and a license suspension of two days for each day of non-compliance.

The regulations would become effective Jan. 1, if adopted.

## Honor Society inducts seven at Lee High

LEE — The National Honor Society recently inducted seven members from Lee High School.

The new members, juniors Tara Browne, Edward Collins, Jill Cozzaglio, David Harrison, Daniel O'Neil and John Soglia and senior Denise Rock, were presented with certificates and honor society pins by Principal Henry T. Zukowski.

The ceremony began with a traditional candlelighting ceremony by adviser Diane M. Ferrero. Four senior members, Amy Clauss, Katherine Burns, Theresa Salinetti and David Terlik gave speeches on the four qualifications of membership.

Speaker was Lorraine Forfa, head of nursing at Hillcrest Hospital and a former member of the Lee School Committee.

A reception followed the ceremony. About 100 students, their families and friends attended.

Eagle, Nov. 5, 1987

## Eagle, Thurs. Nov. 5, 1987 Lee resident wants rent control for trailer parks, apartments

LEE — Warning that lower-income residents are being "pushed out by transient tenants," Louis V. Failla of Fairview Street this week called on the Selectmen to initiate rent control for both trailer parks and apartment units.

The board stopped short of backing Failla's request but agreed to contact five other Berkshire County towns on their ordinances governing trailer parks.

Last month, Failla asked the Planning Board, of which he is a former member, to enforce special permit requirements and initiate rent control at the Brookside and Mountain View trailer parks on Bradley Street. He said the Planning Board issued the original permit for the two parks and is responsible for enforcing it. Failla is acting as a spokesman for the tenants though he does not own a trailer.

The parks opened in 1965 and are presently owned by Bay Colony Mobile Home Parks of New Haven, Conn. They contain 31 trailers.

In his first meeting with the Planning Board, Failla said Bay Colony this year raised the rent by \$20 to \$160 despite the fact that septic systems are deteriorating and both parks have problems with unregistered and commercial vehicles, illegal additions and throw-away furniture. He blamed the town and the landlord for ignoring the situation.

On Monday, Failla returned to the Planning Board with copies of state legislation enabling rent control in the town of Orange. Saying he was dissatisfied with the board's handling of the matter, he then went to the Selectmen.

Selectmen Chairman William D. Bean speculated that rent control of apartments would "probably run into real stiff opposition" from town meeting representatives while that of trailer parks would have "a better chance." He advised Failla to bring the trailer park residents to a future meeting to air their problems.

The Selectmen, he said, have the power to address matters of public health and safety. To that end, Bean said he had already asked Tri-Town Sanitarian Peter J. Kolodziej to inspect the two parks.

Selectman Christopher A. Salinetti said it would be "totally irresponsible" to act on rent control without viewing a sample bylaw and holding public hearings. Town meeting representatives would have to approve the resulting bylaw by a two-thirds majority.

The board agreed to ask Dalton,

North Adams, Pittsfield, Williamstown and Cheshire for copies of their ordinances pertaining to trailer park rents.

Lee Selectmen have announced that alcoholic beverage licenses must be renewed during November. Forms may be signed at the Selectmen's office, which is open from 9 to 4 daily except Friday. Common victualer, innholders, taxi, Class II and other licenses must be renewed by Dec. 31.



# Moratorium on building being considered by Lee

By William C. Carey

LEE — The Selectmen will decide next week if a building moratorium should be imposed on large developments to relieve the town's sewer plant.

Tri-Town Sanitarian Peter J. Kolodziej, who has repeatedly called for building control, last night recommended a temporary moratorium on developments producing more than 2,000 gallons of sewage a day. He said the sewer plant on Route 102 is fast reaching capacity, and without steps to lessen its burden, the town will face penalties by the state.

Kolodziej's request fell favorably on the Selectmen, but was opposed by Building Inspector Edward M. Briggs and a crowd of developers who were forewarned of the meeting.

"I'm dead set against any moratorium on building," Briggs said.

"The nucleus of this town, as far as I'm concerned, is construction."

The sewer plant, opened in 1968, is designed for a capacity of 1 million gallons per day. It now services an average of 750,000 gallons. Kolodziej said once the plant exceeds 80 percent of capacity for 90 consecutive days the town is required to submit an engineering report of remedial steps to the state Department of Environmental Quality Engineering.

In May, town meeting representatives approved \$25,000 for a sewer expansion study. The Department of Public Works is in the process of interviewing engineering firms for the job. Once it is completed, representatives will be called on again to appropriate construction funds.

Based on proposed and approved projects, the town's overall sewer flow is expected to increase by about 135,000 gallons, pushing it past the 80 percent limit. Proposed

projects include a 67-unit motel on Housatonic Street and subdivisions of 36 lots on Fairview Street, 31 on Catherine Drive, 20 on Maple Street, 14 on Mountain View Terrace, eight on Mandalay Drive and others. The Village at October Mountain, a 104-unit condominium development, is planning a second phase.

Already in the works is a \$1.5 million sewer extension to the north end of town. More dwelling units are being constructed at the Fox-hollow and Oak N' Spruce resorts.

## Excess water blamed

Kolodziej said a large part of the demand on the sewer plant is caused by excess water from gutters, roof drains and storm sewers. Flow figures taken from the plant revealed a daily high last month of 1.1 million gallons, and a low of 580,000 gallons. In April, the plant realized a high of 2.1 million gallons, or twice its capacity.

"If we have a heavy spring," Kolodziej warned, "that plant is going to be in trouble."

But Philip M. Manger, co-developer of The Village at October Mountain, said he was told that a large amount of the excess water flow originates in the area near Joe's Diner, where a fountain of water gushes from a manhole during big storms. He and others complained that a building moratorium would not address the problem of unwanted flow.

Manger also said the sewer issue has been discussed since he came to town in 1980, yet little has been done.

Briggs said a moratorium would penalize 55 local developers and about 350 of their employees.

The moratorium appears to have the support of the Selectmen. Chairman William D. Bean said there is a "dying need" to control building until the engineering study is completed.

"I get the feeling that the developers know themselves that it's going to get to that point, that we have to have a moratorium to slow things down a little bit," he said. "We don't like to act with our backs against the wall."

Bean pressed for a vote last night. However, Selectmen Christopher A. Salinetti and Diane P. Roosa said they wanted more time to think about it.

## Lee town meeting to decide whether to adopt hotel-motel tax

By William J. Carey

LEE — The Selectmen will let town meeting representatives decide if Lee should adopt a local hotel-motel tax.

Despite protests from a handful of hoteliers, the board opted Monday to keep the tax alive by presenting it in the form of an article at the May town meeting. Chairman William D. Bean said the Selectmen have a responsibility to notify the taxpayers because Lee stands to gain \$55,764 from the tax.

"When you have that kind of money mentioned in the newspaper, you can't ignore it," he said. "The taxpayers in Lee wouldn't want us to."

### Source of revenue

The hotel-motel tax was authorized by the state Legislature in 1985 to give individual communities an extra source of revenue. It enables them to place a tax of up to 4 percent on rooms in hotels, motels and lodging houses. The Depart-

ment of Revenue collects the tax and returns the money in two installments each year.

The state already charges a tax of 5.7 percent for overnight accommodations.

Of the 24 eligible communities in Berkshire County, none has adopted the local tax. Hoteliers steadfastly oppose it, and William R. Wilson Jr., executive director of the Berkshire Visitors Bureau in Pittsfield, recently vowed to "fight it in every town."

Hoteliers said Monday the local tax would only drive tourists to competing establishments in New York and Connecticut offering lesser rates.

"The New York Times is going to let the people of New York know that difference, and they're sophisticated people," said Charles A. Reynolds, owner of the Merrell Tavern in South Lee. "They may have a tremendous amount of money, but many are penny-pinchers. They're willing to drive that extra 10 miles."

Richard J. Ramsey, owner of The Ramsey House bed and breakfast on West Park Street, said hoteliers already pay large advertising bills to attract out-of-state guests. Discouraging those people with a new tax, he said, would affect not only lodging facilities but restaurants and other related businesses.

Also, hoteliers can no longer deduct the charge on their federal tax forms, he said.

Joseph Castronova, a former selectman who does real estate work, said the \$55,764 would be a "drop in the bucket" when considering its impact on the tax rate. The figure is based on the full 4 percent tax. A community could set the rate lower.

After 40 minutes of discussion, the Selectmen decided to present the tax as an article at the annual town meeting. For his part, Bean remained unconvinced by the arguments against it.

"Are people coming here because they can get cheap rooms?" he asked. "Or are they coming here because they love the Berkshires? I can't believe they're coming here to get cheap rooms."

## Scenic Railway imperiled by downed trees, brush

LEE — The continued operation of the Berkshire Scenic Railway Museum is being threatened by downed trees and brush from the Oct. 4 blizzard.

John W. Herbert, president of the South County tourist line, has requested \$33,000 in state funding to cut brush and restore drainage along several miles of track from Lee to Great Barrington. He said the stretch is a "canopy of bent and broken trees from the storm's wet snow."

The request was mailed this week to state Sen. Peter C. Webber, R-Pittsfield. A copy was released Tuesday by the County Commissioners.

The non-profit, all-volunteer railway museum operates a popular tourist line on the Canaan, Conn., branch of the Boston & Maine Railroad during the spring and summer. The B & M has operated the line at a loss and is in the process of abandoning it.

Herbert said it took a "herculean" five-day effort by railroad and volunteer crews to clear and reopen the tracks after the freak storm. However, the fallen brush is obstructing track drainage, and a canopy of trees is blocking the sun from drying the ground.

The combination of these factors, he said, "will cause an increase in the rate of tie deterioration and promote instability unless corrected before the spring runoff."

The federal and state governments have allocated \$1.4 million to rehabilitate the Canaan and North Adams branch lines. Herbert suggested that one way of paying for the present job would be to credit it



Lodge Sat. Oct. 10, 1987



Leslie Harrison

## First class introduction

Amanda Baran introduces herself during a story on the first day of a pre-kindergarten class at the Allendale School Thursday.

# Lee study cites retail, manufacturing growth

By William J. Carey

**LEE** — While employment in the town's manufacturing sector dropped 29 percent between 1980 and 1985, retail, construction and other sectors grew "significantly," according to a recent study prepared for the Community Development Corp.

The study, prepared by the Center for Economic Development at the University of Massachusetts, re-

vealed that Lee outpaced the rest of Berkshire County in the growth of total establishments over that period — a sign, it said, that Lee's business climate is "healthy."

Nancy L. Frisbie, president of the Greater Lee Chamber of Commerce and owner of Dewhurst-Frisbie Graphics, concurred that new ventures are popping up while old ones are expanding and undergoing changes in management or own-

ership.

In addition, Frisbie said the chamber and local real estate firms have fielded a number of inquiries from potential vendors.

"It's usually a pretty good indication," she said, "that things are on the move."

The transformation to a non-manufacturing base has a down side. Milton J. Gordon, a member of the CDC, pointed out that smaller businesses typically pay less than larger, industrial counterparts. While there may be an increase in the overall jobs, he said, the average wage drops.

"You swap one for the other," he said of the trend away from manufacturing. "You haven't lost, but you haven't gained an awful lot."

The study reveals that Lee's employment in manufacturing dropped 29 percent in the five-year period to a total of 901 workers. Due to its ties to the tobacco industry, the study said Kimberly-Clark Corp. "is not seen to be as stable" as Mead Corp., Lee's other major manufacturer of paper. Both employ about 300 workers.

On the other hand, substantial growth was noted in the areas of service, wholesale and retail trade, construction, finance, insurance and real estate. In terms of pay, the town's 1985 average annual wage of \$18,320 was higher than Berkshire County's as a whole, but it grew at half the rate over five years.

The study found that Lee's total number of establishments grew by

19 percent between 1980 and 1985, reaching 201. From 1986 to the present, Assistant Town Clerk Patricia D. Carlino said her office has issued 39 business certificates for new ventures.

Carlino said some of those businesses are relatively small operations while others closed and still others "never came to be." But on the same token, she said, some of the existing businesses never obtained certificates.

Feeding the apparent business boom has been a significant amount of second-home construction, making Lee a bigger town than its official population of 6,227 would suggest.

Building Inspector Edward M.

Briggs, an 18-year veteran, said he has issued 28 permits for year-round dwellings thus far in 1987, considerably less than the 30 to 40 he averaged in past years. If the town is seeing more activity, he said, look to the large condominium developments.

In the works are 104 units at the Village at October Mountain, 68 units at the Foxhollow Resort and 66 time-sharing units at Oak 'N Spruce, which also plans to develop 30 motel units. October Mountain and Foxhollow have already sold the majority of their units.

Frisbie said Lee's newfound business popularity stems from its "quaintness" and accessibility from the Massachusetts Turnpike.

## Lee ZBA grants permit for 67-unit Super 8 Motel

**LEE** — The Zoning Board of Appeals this week granted a permit for the construction of a Super 8 Motel on Housatonic Street.

With ZBA approval, the developer, Northeast Hospitality Inc. of Montgomery, N.Y., has cleared the final town hurdle to building the 67-unit motel. Plans call for an early November construction start-up date with completion by next spring.

The motel will be located on the Laliberte property between the Burger King restaurant and Sunset Motel. The parcel lies in the Housatonic River flood plain, and in order to build there, the developer required approval from both the Conservation Commission and ZBA.

The Conservation Commission recently issued an order-of-conditions setting strict limitations on the boundaries and conditions of work. The ZBA opened its public hearing on the matter last week. At that time, it was determined that further information was needed from the Department of Public Works on the town's sewer capacity.

ZBA Chairman George E. Frulla said his board voted unanimously to grant the permit after finding the DPW "had no problem" with the motel's expected impact on sewer and water utilities.

Frulla said there were no abutters present at the meeting. Representing Northeast Hospitality were its president, Jack F. Pacak, and Arnold Scaramuzzi of Lee, who is acting as a broker for the Laliberte estate and consultant to the developer.



# Choir to ring in holidays at Boston handbell festival

By William J. Carey

LEE — The St. George's Episcopal Church handbell choir is one of 50 groups that have been invited to participate in the third annual "Bells of New England" handbell festival Nov. 21 and 22 at Faneuil Hall in Boston.

The 12-member group, which traces its roots back to a junior high choir of the late 1960s, will play two half-hour selections Nov. 21 and take part that same day in a tree-lighting ceremony with all groups at 6 p.m.

## 19th century center

Frances S. Daniels, special events coordinator for the Faneuil Hall merchants, said the handbell festival was envisioned three years ago by a marketing team out to "produce unique holiday entertainment" in the well-known Boston shopping area. Fittingly, Boston was a center of handbell ringing in the 1800s, she said.

The timing of the festival, before Thanksgiving and Christmas, was thought to be a "good time to introduce the holidays," Daniels said. The tree-lighting ceremony will feature 250,000 lights.

Although it represents an ancient art, the St. George's handbell choir has been active on a circuit that includes churches, nursing homes, libraries and stops such as the Red

Lion Inn and Cranwell. Recently, the group provided the music for a wedding at St. Agnes' Church in Dalton.

Bells, which date back in various forms to the beginning of mankind, became widely used in Europe during the Middle Ages, with "their growth in importance being closely linked to the growth in importance of Christianity," according to Martha Lynn Thompson, author of "Bell, Book and Binger."

A group known as the Peake Family Ringers is thought to have introduced English handbells to the United States in the 1830s, followed by other groups such as the Swiss Bell Ringers, a band of Englishmen promoted by circus owner P.T. Barnum in the 1840s.

Margaret Shurcliff of Boston is credited with popularizing the art in New England during the 1920s and 1930s. In 1954, she served as first president of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, of which the St. George's handbell choir is a part.

## 3-hour practices

The local choir is composed of women age 33 to 78 who practice up to three hours every Monday night.

"It takes a very dedicated group — their families have forfeited a lot," said Linda Abderhalden of Washington Mountain Road, who took over as choir director in 1978.

"You're always practicing. You're always improving."

The bells — St. George's has 38 — are arranged by scale from the lowest note to the highest. For different songs, the players often use more than one bell, and the lineup is rearranged accordingly.

## London products

Cast at the famed Whitechapel Bell Foundry of London, England, the leather-handled bells are made of a copper and tin alloy and weigh from several ounces to several pounds. Not surprisingly, one of the prerequisites to joining a handbell choir, along with rhythm, coordination and musical ability, is "strong wrists," Abderhalden said.

In St. George's choir, 72-year-old Charlotte Davis has the task of ringing the heaviest bells in a repertoire of classical, patriotic and modern selections. But a handbell choir, Abderhalden said, does not comprise individual stars.

"It has to function as one instrument," she said. "It really is a do-or-die situation."



**THE HEAVY BELLS** on St. George's handbell choir are managed by Charlotte Davis, left, and Margaret Clarke.

William J. Carey



# Lee hopes state will assist by paying for roof repairs

LEE — Ruling out a piecemeal approach, the School Committee voted Tuesday night to replace two aging roofs at the Central School by using hoped-for state funding. If the state source fails, town meeting representatives may be faced with an estimated \$103,000 repair bill.

As expected, Briggs Engineering of Rockland, the firm that inspected the gymnasium and classroom portions of the school, has recommended that both roofs, which date back to 1936, be replaced.

In the case of the gymnasium, which is now closed, the firm recommended replacing both the roof and the decking below it, which serves as a supporting structure, at an estimated cost of \$65,000. For the classroom portion, it recommended replacing only the roof, at \$38,000.

"Inspection of the two roofs revealed both roof systems to be in extremely poor condition," the engineering firm stated in a 16-page

report. "The smooth-surfaced, asphalt, built-up system is severely deteriorated throughout both roof areas. The roof membrane is severely alligatored and appears to have failed in several areas."

Of the supporting decking, Briggs Engineering found the structural steel in both cases to be in "satisfactory condition," but with some minor rusting. However, it found the gypsum-concrete planking of the gymnasium in "poor condition," with 10 percent of the planks cracked or chipped.

"You do have some serious problems in that gym area," Pittsfield architect Stephen D. Barry told the School Committee. "It definitely needs to be taken care of, and the sooner the better."

## Several months

He estimated the job would take several months — but perhaps less — if school officials win a waiver on bidding requirements from the state.

Also at the meeting, Building Inspector Edward M. Briggs, no rela-

tion to the engineering firm, said school officials would have to be "very persuasive with a temporary solution" in order to convince him to lift his Sept. 19 ban on use of the gymnasium.

Faced with the possibilities of splitting the repair projects or temporarily repairing the two roofs, the committee received a clear-cut recommendation from Superintendent of Schools Clarence C. Truesdell.

Even with a plan to shore up the gymnasium roof, he said, "We're still talking about sending children into a defective room with a snow load on top of that."

Truesdell recommended the committee proceed "full bore" with the roof replacement and "treat this as exactly what it is — and that is an emergency."

Asked if the repairs would necessitate double sessions or new classroom facilities, Truesdell said, "I would rather face that when we come to it. I feel very very confident we can work out something."

While the committee voted to have both roofs replaced, the availability of state funding for the work remains in doubt. Joseph C. Savery, a School Committee-designate who formerly served on the state Board of Education, said he was aware of numerous requests for roughly \$57 million in building repair funds.

"If I recall correctly, when I left the Board of Education, that money was pretty well shot for this year," he said.

cnology.

Eagle, Sat. Oct. 17, 1987

## Route 102 industrial park gets approval to expand

LEE — Peter D. Fraser, president of Fraser Sales Inc., has obtained the approval necessary to begin a three-lot expansion of the Windsock Industrial Park off Route 102.

Fraser said last night that Western Mass. Construction of Stockbridge and D.F. Lane Landscaping of Lenox are two of three businesses under contract to purchase the lots. He declined to name the third business without obtaining permission from the owner.

An additional five lots abutting Boston & Maine Railroad tracks are being offered for sale.

Recent approval of definitive plans by the Planning Board capped a three-year expansion effort begun when Fraser Sales relocated from the present site of Convenience Plus on Main Street to Route 102. The automotive repair business owns the Windsock Industrial Park.

"Now it's come to be," said a relieved Fraser. "It's been a tough three years."

Earlier this year, Fraser was unsuccessful in convincing the town to appropriate money for a sewer pumping station that would have served his park and others along the industrial zone. Fraser said last night he will spend up to \$100,000 to build a new road branching off from the present entrance and provide

water, sewer, gas and electricity to the businesses.

He said he was unable to finance the expansion until the buyers stepped forward.

The three lots, covering roughly 5 of the park's 19 acres, will be situated to the east of the new road. The five additional lots — still in the planning stages — will cover another 5 acres to the west of the road, abutting the railroad tracks.

Fraser said he plans to begin work later this month and has obtained permission from the state to cut across Route 102 for access to the town's sewer and water mains. In the case of water, the expansion will be served temporarily by a small pipe until the construction of a new water tower off Fairview Street.

The three businesses plan to build office, shop and storage facilities beginning this fall, with completion by the spring, Fraser said.

The expansion of the Windsock park closely follows that of Betnr Enterprises, which is building a four-unit light industrial park nearby. In addition, the Lee Community Development Corp. has expressed the desire to build a 50-acre park in the same area.

Route 102 is considered Berkshire County's most promising industrial belt.

## Condo owners seek control of Lee development

By William J. Carey

LEE — The owners of 29 condominium units at The Village at October Mountain have filed a suit in Berkshire Superior Court seeking to wrest control of the Board of Managers from the village developers.

The group, in an Oct. 27 complaint, has requested that an interim party be appointed to handle the financial affairs of the board, that all records be impounded and reviewed, and that village bylaws be amended to shift control of the board to condominium owners. The group is seeking unspecified damages.

October Mountain is a 104-unit condominium village being developed by Philip M. Manger and Robert H. Garrity off East Street. The Board of Managers, which oversees the common expenses, maintenance and upkeep of the village, is currently made up of Manger, Garrity and Robina Garrity.

According to the complaint, control of the Board of Managers will shift to the condominium owners once 75 percent of the units in each of six phases are sold. Of the first five phases containing 88 units, 87 have been sold. The final phase consists of 16 units in four buildings.

In order for that phase to satisfy the 75 percent requirement, 12 of the units would have to be sold. The complaint states that two of the buildings, each containing four units, are being held up by the town until the developers satisfy building requirements.

The developers, it alleges, have "failed to take necessary steps" to bring the buildings into conformity, thus delaying the transfer of power to the condominium owners.

In addition, the present Board of Managers has failed to make records available upon request and has not established working capital and reserve funds as provided by the village bylaws, the complaint states. It also charges that the developers failed to conform with building codes in constructing the condominiums and acted "negligently" in the design and construction of drainage facilities.

Pittsfield attorney Gerald A. Denmark, who represents October Mountain, said only do we disagree with the owners are claiming but we will have to respond in a way that will make them unhappy."

The condominium owners are represented by attorney Edward M. Reilly, also of Pittsfield.

Eagle, Sat. Oct. 31, 1987



# Lee Selectmen to appeal ZBA's decision to allow Super 8 motel

By William J. Carey

LEE — The Selectmen last night voted unanimously to appeal the Oct. 7 decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals to allow construction of a Super 8 chain motel on Housatonic Street.

Board members said they were not criticizing the ZBA itself, but acting "in the best interests of the town" by challenging the proposed 67-unit motel. Selectman Christopher A. Salinetti, however, said the zoning board may have been "to some extent wrong" when it voted to award a special permit.

The motel is being proposed by Northeast Hospitality Inc. of Montgomery, N.Y., on a lot containing three houses between the Burger King restaurant and Sunset Motel. The targeted area lies in the Housatonic River flood plain, and in order to build there, the developer was required to get approval from both the Conservation Commission and the ZBA.

## Strict conditions

The conservation board issued a strict, eight-point order of conditions in September after finding the parcel had adequate storage space for runoff water displaced by the proposed building. The ZBA, which conducted a public hearing on two nights, voted to approve the special permit after major concerns over the motel's sewer and water impact were addressed. That approval set off a 21-day appeal period.

In explaining his board's decision to appeal, Selectmen Chairman

William D. Bean said, "We feel we must exercise our right under the appeal process" to challenge the permit. He referred to the "serious" condition of the town's sewer plant, which is near capacity, in saying the motel is not in Lee's best inter-

Salinetti, the toughest questioner at the ZBA's Sept. 30 hearing, said he is not convinced the motel satisfies zoning bylaws dealing with the public welfare, adjacent and future uses, traffic and utilities.

"What do you do when two boards have this problem?" he asked. "Somebody has to make a decision. It's not that we have an ax to grind."

In the present situation, Bean said, Town Counsel Jerome J. Scully will represent the Selectmen.

## Lee police probing theft of two autos

LEE — Police are investigating the reported theft of two cars in separate incidents over the weekend. Both cars were recovered.

Police said Herman E. Naventi of Mandalay Road reported his 1986 Pontiac Firebird had been stolen sometime after 11 p.m. Sunday. The car was found abandoned yesterday in Greenwich, Conn. Police have a suspect in the case but are still investigating.

Also, David Field of Cape Street reported yesterday that his 1987 Oldsmobile Cutlass had been stolen. The car was found damaged and abandoned in Huntington.

He said the developer, not the ZBA, will have to fight for the permit.

Scully confirmed last night that he will file papers today in Berkshire Superior Court.

Contacted after the meeting, ZBA member Peter R. Biasin said that he was surprised by the appeal and that he wished the Selectmen "had said something prior" to the ZBA's decision to award the permit. He pointed out that the decision was made after the Conservation Commission had approved the layout of the project and conditions for construction.

## Other business

In other business, Kenneth J. LaBier, the town's Civil Defense director, called upon the Selectmen to support the purchase of a new generator and designate a town building for use during emergencies.

LaBier said the town put up 23 travelers — 17 at Lee High School and six in private homes — during the Oct. 4 blizzard. Although everything went well, he said, the situation revealed the town's lack of preparedness in not having a generator to keep the heat operating.

"We go through this every few years," he said. "And it's forgotten until the next time."

LaBier said the Senior Center would make an ideal emergency center because of its size and the presence of gas stoves and bathroom facilities. He estimated that the purchase of a generator for the building and necessary renovations would cost \$8,000 to \$10,000.

The Selectmen agreed to place the generator request on the warrant of a special town meeting planned to deal with the replacement of roofs at Lee Central School.

## Storm cleanup costs

In a related matter, LaBier informed the Civil Defense office in Belchertown on Oct. 8 that Lee had spent \$6,000 to date on cleanup costs from the storm. He estimated that another \$100,000 would be needed and called for at least two professional tree-removal services.

Responding to a complaint from Bean that Civil Defense is ignoring the smaller towns trying to recover from the blizzard, LaBier said, "All we've been told is we're on a list. We'll be on the phone again tomorrow."

Also, the Selectmen received nine proposals for design work to renovate the Memorial Town Hall. The bidders were: Architects Inc. of Northampton, Bennet & Shaw Inc. of Boston, Bradley Architects of Pittsfield, J. Fulop Associates of West Stockbridge, Galliher & Baier of Simsbury, Conn., Joseph Mattei Associates of Greenfield, Allan & Taylor Associates of Waltham, Taskin Construction Engineering of North Reading and The Preservation Partnership of New Bedford. Most requested interviews before specifying a bid price.

## Lee abutter to proposed motel grills Selectmen on opposition

By William J. Carey

LEE — The stalemate over the proposed Super 8 motel on Housatonic Street became heated Monday when abutting property owner Angelo DiGrigoli called on the Selectmen individually to explain their opposition to the plan.

DiGrigoli, who backs the motel, left the meeting after accusing Selectmen Chairman William D. Bean of "taking the Fifth" in refusing to discuss what Bean termed a matter of pending litigation. He did receive a detailed explanation from Selectman Christopher A. Salinetti, who at times had to shout to get his point across.

Last week, the Selectmen voted unanimously to appeal an Oct. 7 decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals to award a permit for the 67-unit chain motel. Under town bylaws, the ZBA has jurisdiction in the matter because the motel would be constructed in a flood plain, in this case, that of the Housatonic River.

In explaining their decision, the Selectmen said they were acting in the best interests of the town and waging battle with the developer, Northeast Hospitality Inc. of Montgomery, N.Y., and not the ZBA. The following day, Town Counsel Jerome J. Scully filed papers in Berkshire Superior Court.

"We don't know why the Selectmen did what they did because it was a unanimous decision by the zoning board," said Northeast president Jack F. Pacak, who was contacted by telephone yesterday. "We'd rather not go to court. We'd rather work with the Selectmen to find out what it is they want and what they don't like about the project."

Pacak said the papers filed in court do not specifically state the reason for the appeal, which he termed "arbitrary and capricious." He said Northeast is being represented in the matter by Pittsfield attorney William R. Flynn.

## Lot in the middle

The motel would be on the LaLiberte property at 128 Housatonic Street, the middle lot among three, containing homes, between the

Burger King restaurant and Sunset Motel. The two homes on each side of the LaLiberte property are owned by DiGrigoli and Robert Fletcher.

DiGrigoli's call for individual explanations from the Selectmen was addressed by Salinetti, who contends the ZBA was at fault in its findings. Reading from town bylaws for a special permit, he said the motel must be "essential and desirable" at the proposed location and not impede upon adjacent uses or the "future character" of the neighborhood, create undue traffic congestion or tax public utilities.

Of those conditions, he said, "I think the beautification of Housatonic Street, and what we want to see in Lee, is not a Super 8 motel." He said the future character of the neighborhood, which is just north of the Massachusetts Turnpike entrance, "is supposed to conform to the Berkshires, not Sunset Strip."

Salinetti said the capacity of the town's sewer plant had been a concern of the Selectmen in denying two other projects — a small town-house development by restaurant owner Marilyn K. Sullivan and a second phase to The Village at October Mountain.

Philip M. Manger, a co-developer of the condominium village, questioned why the Selectmen were challenging the decision of another town board.

"As the board most representative of the town, we're doing this,"

Salinetti said.

DiGrigoli next turned his attention to Bean, who would say only that "town counsel is handling this."

"You're not going to talk — you're taking the Fifth?" asked an incredulous DiGrigoli. "What am I doing here?"

Turning to a reporter, he said, "I'm in favor of that motel going in — 100 percent."

DiGrigoli, who rents out the four-bedroom home to several tenants, said later that he has not been approached by the motel developer to sell it, a point that was confirmed by Pacak. However, the Selectmen expressed doubt about his intentions. Bean said later that DiGrigoli appeared "too angry" not to have a financial interest in the building of the motel.

## Other business

In other business, the Selectmen:

— Scheduled a Nov. 9 public hearing on the local option hotel-motel tax. If the option is adopted, the town could add a tax of up to 4 percent on the price of rooms in hotels, motels and lodging facilities. The state already charges 5.7 percent for such facilities.

— Were approached by Lenox Selectmen Chairman John J. Pignatelli on the possibility of obtaining state money for a full-time assistant who would help the planning boards in the two towns. Pignatelli said the application deadline is Nov. 4.

Eagle, Tues. Oct. 20, 1987

Eagle, Wed. Oct. 28, 1987



Berkshire Eagle, Thurs. Oct. 29, 1987



MOUNTAIN VIEW mobile home park on Bradley Street is one of two parks that were criticized at a meeting of the Planning Board this week.

## Tenants of two Lee trailer parks seek rent control, improvements

LEE — Tenants of the Brookside and Mountain View mobile home parks on Bradley Street have asked the Planning Board to initiate rent control and to pressure their landlord to "start cleaning the places up."

Louis V. Falla, a resident of Fairview Street who represented the tenants this week in making the requests, said the two parks are neglected by the landlord, Bay Colony Mobile Home Parks of New Haven, Conn., and littered with unregistered vehicles, throwaway furniture and stray animals. He added that some of the homes have additions of a permanent nature, though they are supposed to remain mobile.

There are 22 homes in the Mountain View park and nine in Brookside, just down the road. Last June, Bay Colony notified the tenants that it would be raising the monthly rent for lots by \$20 to \$160

— the first increase since 1984. However, Falla said tenants have seen no improvements in recent times to justify the increase.

Contacted by phone, David Maclesney, Bay Colony's director of parks, confirmed the rent increase but declined to comment on the action by tenants. "No one's notified us of anything," he said.

### Referred to counsel

The Planning Board expressed some doubt Monday over its authority to call for rent-control and compel the landlord to make changes. Because of the board's workload, Chairman Sallie Kate Kish said the matter has been assigned to member Leif Steinert, who is expected to report back at the next meeting Nov. 2.

Kish said the board will also refer the matter to Town Counsel Jerome J. Scully to settle the legal questions. Scully's initial reaction Wednesday, without the benefit of studying the matter, was that town meeting representatives have the authority to establish rent control. He said the issue of neglect in the parks may fall under the jurisdiction of the Board of Health.

Falla said cleaning up the two parks is "an important issue," especially with the lack of affordable housing. He referred to a state-funded study now taking place by the Planning Board into development, zoning and housing issues.

### Tardy borrowers to get a break

88.

C4 — The Berkshire Eagle, Wednesday, October 28, 1987

## Police decisions reduce Lee's chance as future site of S. Berkshire court

LEE — The role and stature of Lee District Court, lately reduced in terms of caseload and days of operation, diminished further this month as the Stockbridge and West Stockbridge police departments elected to take their business from Lee court, which is housed in Lee's Memorial Hall on Main Street, to the more active Great Barrington District Court.

Stockbridge Police Chief Richard B. Wilcox said the fact that the Great Barrington court holds sessions twice a week — Lee court convenes only once a week, on Mondays — made it more convenient for his department and witnesses, as well as defendants' lawyers, to have cases heard there rather than in Lee. Wilcox said the plan to open a South County satellite

office of the Berkshire County district attorney in the Great Barrington courthouse added to the advantage of doing business at that court.

It is no secret that the Lee and Great Barrington courts are candidates for consolidation, though when and where that consolidation will be implemented is yet to be announced. It may take legislation, because state law stipulates that the court hold sessions in both towns. But there is ample evidence that an act of the Legislature is not required. Williamstown District Court and district courts in Huntington, South Hadley and other parts of the state, though listed in the court inventory in the General Laws, have been closed or merged in recent years without legislative action.

### Judge 'welcomes' move

Judge Robert J. Donelan, presiding justice of the District Court of Southern Berkshire that sits in Lee and Great Barrington, said he did not attempt to influence the decision of the Stockbridge and West Stockbridge police to move their business from Lee to Great Barrington. He said, however, that he "welcomed" the move because it is a "means of

rationalizing the management of court business."

Two years ago, state police cases, which had been heard at either court, were assigned exclusively to the Great Barrington court. More recently, Lee's schedule was cut from two days to one while Great Barrington maintained its two-day schedule.

Since 1983, the Great Barrington court has been housed in the first floor of the former Dewey School, a town-owned building that was retired as a schoolhouse in 1982. The town and the court are now negotiating a plan to permit the court to take over the second floor.

Donelan said he wants to see the two courts consolidated, but said he takes no position on where that consolidated court should be, beyond saying it should be in South Berkshire.

Lee Police Chief Edward J. Finnegan is one of the more outspoken advocates of maintaining the Lee court. That court, he said, is convenient for his department as well as those in Lenox, Tyringham, Becket and Otis, as well as for the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority. The Turnpike relies on Lee court because it lies less than a mile from the turnpike interchange and is convenient for turnpike police. However, turnpike cases usually involve speeding and other non-criminal charges that are handled through the mail and do not routinely require the presence of an officer.

Finnegan noted that efforts are under way to refurbish the interior of Memorial Hall and improve the court accommodations. The Selectmen last week opened nine proposals from aspiring bidders on the projects.



# Hodgkins seeking \$5 million to upgrade, buy railroad lines

By William J. Carey

State Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins, D-Lee, has proposed that \$5 million of a pending transportation bond issue be used for upgrading and purchasing Berkshire County's north-south railroad lines.

In addition, Hodgkins has inserted two amendments that would direct the state to investigate the management of the lines and begin a feasibility study of restoring passenger service. The bond issue, covering \$3 billion in state transportation projects, was approved yesterday by the House Ways and Means Committee.

The Berkshire County lines, stretching more than 50 miles from Canaan, Conn., to North Adams, are owned by the Boston & Maine Railroad. Concerned with their deteriorating status, local officials have been pushing hard this year for a government-funded rehabilitation and possible acquisition of the tracks.

In September, the B & M sur-

prised few when it took the first step toward abandoning all but a 5.5-mile stretch between Adams and North Adams. At the same time, it has been locked in negotiations with the state's Executive Office of Transportation and Construction over funding measures. It has been said that a state takeover of the two lines is part of those negotiations.

Yesterday, the County Commissioners released a copy of a letter that confirms this. In the letter, the state agency's assistant secretary, Paul E. McBride, advises Guilford Transportation, the B & M's parent company, to forestall track deterioration on the southern, Canaan branch. He was responding to a recent plea for help by John W. Herbert, president of the Berkshire Scenic Railway Museum.

"As you know, this office is considering purchase of the Canaan branch line within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts," McBride wrote. "Such purchase would necessarily be discounted for any extraordinary deterioration in

the track structure at the time of purchase."

In his first amendment, Hodgkins would have the transportation agency investigate the 1982 agreement with the Federal Railway Administration that allowed the B & M to acquire the Canaan and North Adams branches. Under that agreement, he said, the B & M was supposed to properly maintain the two lines and ensure adequate service.

"The rail company has clearly not done this," he said in a press release. "I have received many complaints from area shippers about the poor condition of the track and the inordinate amount of time it takes to move goods in and out of the county. Until the state acquires the lines, we must ensure that the current owner maintains them according to the FRA agreement."

Of the \$5 million, Hodgkins is proposing that \$3.4 million be used for upgrading the lines, with the balance reserved for a negotiated purchase.

"The bottom line is that these lines are a remarkable public transportation resource and they should belong in the public domain," he said.

## Lee School Dept. obtains waivers to rush roof repair

LEE — Work on the damaged Central School roof could begin as soon as Christmas, according to school officials.

To expedite the repairs, the School Department recently obtained waivers from the designer-selection and bidding procedures. Last week, the School Committee approved a contract with its chosen designer, Barry Architects of Pittsfield, for \$8,500.

The firm has estimated that three weeks will be needed to draw up specifications for the job. Once that is accomplished, school officials are hopeful that a contractor will be hired to start work by Dec. 23, when the two-week Christmas vacation begins. The work is expected to last four to six weeks.

"Everything that can be done is being done as fast as possible," said Superintendent of Schools Clarence D. Truesdell.

The Central School gymnasium was ordered closed Sept. 19 after two custodians searching for leaks discovered extensive damage to the roof decking. Since then, 565 students have been reporting to gym in the school cafeteria, a basement-

level corridor and the School Committee conference room.

After inspecting the building, Briggs Engineering of Rockland recommended new roofs for both the gymnasium and classroom portions, with the gymnasium roof undergoing more extensive, structural repairs. It placed an estimated cost of \$103,000 on the job.

The School Committee has declared the roof situation an emergency in order to qualify for special state assistance. However, Buildings and Grounds Superintendent James D. Gralla said "a lot of ifs" remain at the state level.

Firstly, he said, the state Legislature has not yet appropriated any funds for emergency assistance. It is expected to act on a three-year funding bill on Monday. Secondly, although Lee has been moved "to the top of the list," there is competition for the money. If Lee does win approval, the town will be reimbursed 65 percent of the cost over five years, Gralla said.

In either case, a special town meeting will be needed in the next few weeks to borrow or appropriate money to pay the contractors. The initial \$8,500 came from a \$25,000 town emergency fund, according to Finance Committee Chairman Robert B. Trask.

## Lee, Tyringham reports win statewide awards

LEE — The 1986 Town Report designed by The Visual Arts of 139 Main St. has won first prize in a statewide contest sponsored by the Massachusetts Municipal Association. The Tyringham Town Report, designed by the same firm, took third-place honors in a separate category.

"We did both of them, and we're very proud of it," said Peter Eberth of Tyringham, who opened The Visual Arts six years ago.

The MMA contest takes annual reports in seven population categories, ranging from towns that have fewer than 1,000 people to those with 20,000 or more. The judges this year were Jane Seagrave, editor of Lawyers' Weekly, and Christopher Crowley, a Brook-

line selectman and official of the state Executive Office of Communities and Development.

Lee's town report, a 100-page, glossy-cover booklet, features a portrait of General Charles Lee, for whom the town is named. The report took first place among towns with 5,000 to 7,999 people, followed by Rockport and Boxford.

Tyringham's town report was judged among those of towns with fewer than 1,000 people. It placed third behind Wendell and Middlefield.

The Visual Arts does all type-setting and design work for the reports, which are printed elsewhere. Eberth said he was aided in designing the two reports by Brian Majewski. The proofreader was Joyce McGibbon.

The Berkshire Eagle, Monday, November 23, 1987 — B7

## Noni's Pizzeria in Lee destroyed by smoky fire

"I've never seen that much smoke," he said.

The Lee Fire Department fought the fire for about 90 minutes before one of the walls began to give way. The town Department of Public Works then brought in a backhoe to demolish the building.

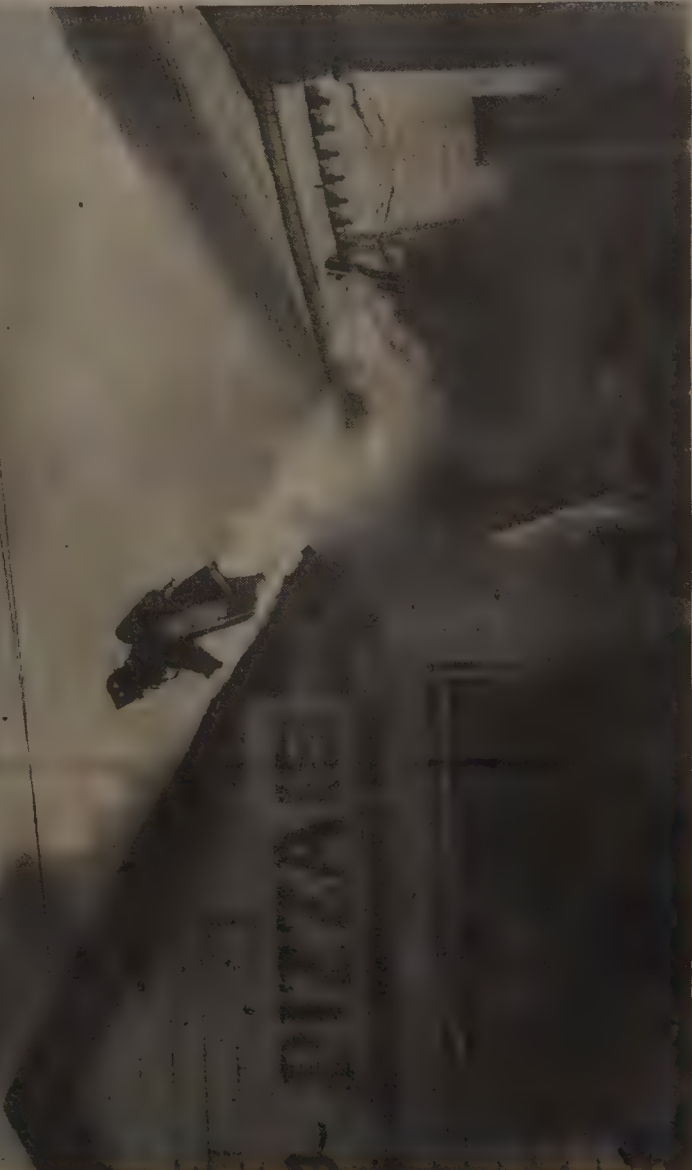
An estimate on the amount of damage caused by the fire could not be obtained last night.

LEE — Noni's Pizzeria on Railroad Street was destroyed by a smoky fire yesterday morning.

The cause of the blaze, which created such a thick smoke that it interfered with Sunday morning church traffic on Main Street, was unknown. State police were called in to investigate. Acting Fire Chief Lazzaro J. Buffis could not be reached for comment last night.

The business was owned by Kevin and Anne Roosa of East Street, who had operated there for the past two years. The building, a small one-story wooden structure, was owned by Benjamin Slaminsky of Stockbridge Road.

Selectman Christopher A. Salinetti, who was in the area when the blaze broke out, said he heard fire engines arrive at Noni's at 9 a.m. They broke down the door and broke the plate glass windows to get inside, he said. He said a thick smoke was coming from the building, but that he could not see many flames.



Christopher A. Salinetti  
Noni's Pizzeria on Railroad Street yesterday. The cause of the fire is still being investigated.



# Faulty seizure of evidence sinks heroin charge

By Stephen Fay

**LEE** — In a case that underscores the narrow limits within which police must operate when obtaining evidence, a District Court judge Monday dismissed, at the request of the prosecution, a charge of possession of heroin after granting a defense motion to suppress evidence in the case — the heroin.

When Judge Robert J. Donelan granted the suppression motion in the case against Francesca E. Stracuzzi, 26, of Landus Road, the prosecution's case collapsed.

The motion to suppress, filed by Stracuzzi's lawyer, John J. Martin of Pittsfield, argued that Lee police had improperly seized from Stracuzzi a bag later found to contain heroin. The seizure, Martin argued, violated rights accorded Stracuzzi under the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution as well as Chapter 276, Section 1, of the General Laws of Massachusetts.

## Stop sign incident

The case against Stracuzzi began where it ended, in Lee. It commenced shortly after 9 p.m. on Aug. 11 when Lee Police Officer James Loring observed a car run the stop sign at the intersection of Housatonic and Fuller streets. Loring stopped the car and asked the driver, Charles A. Coppola, 44, of 132 Alfred Drive, Pittsfield, for his license. A license check determined that Coppola's license had been suspended.

Loring, after calling for backup from Officer William Tierney, asked Coppola to come out of the car and arrested him for operating after suspension.

Stracuzzi, a passenger in Coppola's car, also got out of the car. She went around to the driver's side and attempted to get in and drive away, but Tierney stopped her. (According to an affidavit submitted to the court by Stracuzzi, she "attempted to enter the driver's seat to drive the vehicle since Mr. Coppola was not allowed to do so.")

## 'Quick, furtive motion'

At this point, according to Assistant District Attorney Marshall B. Murray, who prosecuted the case, "Officer Loring saw Ms. Stracuzzi lean into the car and, with a quick, furtive motion, remove a dark object from beneath the driver's seat."

The object was a blue bag with "First Agricultural Bank" printed on the side. Tierney took the bag from Stracuzzi, at which time Stracuzzi ran to

The motion to suppress the evidence of the heroin — a motion that would establish whether there was a case against Stracuzzi — was based on several points of state and federal law.

## No arrest, no cause

Her attorney argued that Stracuzzi's Fourth Amendment protection against "unreasonable searches and seizures without probable cause" had been violated by the Lee police because she was not under arrest at the time the bag was taken from her and had not been given her rights. Nor, he wrote, was there any probable cause for arresting her.

"Since there was no arrest made nor any legitimate authorized search in progress," Martin wrote, "the evidence so seized is inadmissible."

The strongest argument for suppression advanced by Martin cited

Chapter 276, Section 1, of the General Laws, a statute that sets a standard for police searches that is more exacting than that set by the U.S. Supreme Court.

## 'Property seized. . . in violation of the provisions of this paragraph shall not be admissible . . .'

Chapter 276, Section 1, was an amendment inserted in the General Laws by the Legislature in 1974 in reaction to a 1973 Supreme Court case, *United States vs. Robinson*, that gave police general authority to

search an arrested person regardless of the seriousness of the offense or the likelihood that weapons, contraband or evidence would be found.

Under the narrow stipulations of the state law, "a search conducted incident to an arrest may be made only for the purposes of seizing fruits, instrumentalities, contraband and other evidence of the crime for which the arrest has been made, in order to prevent its destruction or concealment."

The law also allows for "removing any weapon that the arrestee might use to resist arrest or effect his escape."

The law concludes: "Property seized as a result of a search in violation of the provisions of this paragraph shall not be admissible in evidence in criminal proceedings."

Stracuzzi's lawyer argued that the blue bag she held was not seized in connection with her arrest because

she hadn't been arrested. And even if the prosecution maintained that her arrest was in progress, Martin wrote, seizure of the bag she carried violated the state law requiring a connection between the arrest and the seizure.

Murray, the assistant district attorney, submitted a written brief in which he argued that Officers Loring and Tierney acted properly in seizing the bag because they "had reasonable grounds to fear for their safety because the defendant suspiciously removed an object from beneath the car seat and then failed to cooperate with the officers when queried about the item."

"Although the officers could only see a dark object being removed from beneath the seat," Murray wrote, "it was not unreasonable for them to fear the presence of a weapon that could have been used against them to interfere with the arrest of Mr. Coppola."

He wrote that Stracuzzi, by running to the nearby gas station, "exhibited an inclination to flee" so that the officers "then had probable cause to believe that the bag contained evidence of a crime."

Stracuzzi, in her affidavit, said she spotted the First Agricultural Bank bag when she leaned into Coppola's car to get her purse. She said she assumed the contents of the bag "was the cash receipts from the Lee Ling's Restaurant where I am employed, as is Mr. Coppola. I felt that since the car would be driven by neither of us that I should remove this money bag."

"I had no idea what the bag contained and I only picked it up assuming it was cash receipts which should not have been left in the car at that time," she said.

On Sept. 21, Coppola was found guilty of driving after his license had been suspended. He was fined \$25.

B8 — The Berkshire Eagle, Thursday, November 19, 1987

## Trailer parks' owner agrees to start repairs

**LEE** — A representative of Bay Colony Mobile Home Parks of New Haven, Conn., has agreed to begin needed repairs at the Brookside and Mountain View trailer parks on Bradley Street.

David E. Machesney, Bay Colony's director of parks, promised to rectify deteriorating septic systems, exposed electrical outlets and other problems during a meeting Monday with 35 tenants and others at the Senior Center. The meeting was hosted by the Selectmen.

Last month, Louis V. Failla of Fairview Street brought the poor condition of both the Planning Board and Selectmen. He also asked that rent control be initiated there, and at two other trailer parks in town.

The Brookside and Mountain View parks contain a total of 32 mobile homes. Bay Colony, whose parent company is the Fusco Corp., owns 13 parks in four states. This summer, it upped rents in Lee by \$20 to \$160 per month. On Tuesday, Machesney was in North Adams to explain a \$35-a-month rent increase at the Wheel Estates Mobile Home Park.

Failla said Monday he does not want to deprive the company and other landlords of a profit, but is seeking a "fair and adjusted rate"

to further increases. The \$20 raise, he said, is not justified by cost of living increases.

## Complaints aired

Although a discussion on rent control was expected, the meeting quickly developed into a sounding board for complaints. The chief criticism was deteriorating septic systems, but several other problems were aired.

Mark Kinney, a resident of Brookside, said the park is suffering from broken mail boxes, exposed electrical boxes and deteriorating roads. Another resident said underground wires have remained uncovered since she moved in more than 11 years ago.

"They came down and threw two shovelfuls of dirt on it, which of course, has since been washed away," she said.

When Machesney rose to speak, tenants expressed surprise at his presence, saying, "Oh, there he is. Hi, David!"

Machesney said Bay Colony has undergone several management changes and is committed to rectifying the problems. However, he chided the tenants for withholding their complaints, saying he had received only two or three phone calls in the past year.

"If you have a complaint, write a little note and put it in your check," he said.

Tenants said they had made numerous phone calls. When Machesney advised them to ask for a woman named Anita, one tenant responded, "Anita is a very sarcastic person, I'm sorry."

## Clogged septic lines

Selectmen Chairman William D. Bean, saying he and Tri-Town Sanitarian Peter J. Kolodziej were displeased with the condition of septic systems, advised Machesney to step

up the pumping of clogged lines.

"I would like some strong commitments that you're going to do something drastic," he told Machesney.

Machesney agreed to present a plan of remedial measures in the next two weeks. He also said the company has retained Tighe & Bond Engineers of Easthampton to plan connecting lines to the new town sewer main, part of a sewer expansion to the north end of town. However, he said he doubted the work can be accomplished during the winter.

a nearby gas station and telephoned a friend. In her affidavit, Stracuzzi said she called a friend to ask for a ride because the police said Coppola's car would be towed from the scene.

According to Murray, the two policemen placed Coppola in a cruiser and then examined the contents of the bank bag.

"The officers looked into the blue bag and discovered a plastic bag containing a white powder," according to Marshall. "The officers then placed Ms. Stracuzzi under arrest for possession of a controlled substance" — a substance subsequently determined to be heroin.

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continued

continued





William J. Carey

AT ODDS over the issuance of occupancy permits last night were Selectmen Chairman William D. Bean, left, and Building Inspector Edward M. Briggs, who was fired after the discussion. Selectmen Christopher A. Salinetti is in middle.

agle, Tues. Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>, 1987

## Lee Selectmen fire Briggs, vote building moratorium

By William J. Carey

LEE — The Selectmen voted unanimously last night to fire veteran Building Inspector Edward M. "Buddy" Briggs following a stormy, half-hour hearing.

In the next order of business, the board again voted unanimously to impose a temporary building moratorium on all developments producing more than 2,000 gallons of sewage a day. The time frame of the ban is indefinite.

Briggs, an 18-year veteran inspector, was suspended by the board Friday after he issued an occupancy permit for a single condominium unit at The Village at October Mountain. Selectmen Chairman William D. Bean had directed him not to, contending that a 1986 order stopping new construction at the village applied to the building.

Last night's hearing was barely five minutes old when a fiery Briggs pounded his fist to the table and engaged Bean in a heated argument that subsided only when Bean yielded the floor to Selectman Christopher A. Salinetti.

Bean said Briggs continually defied the board by issuing occupancy permits when he knew building violations existed. By doing so, Briggs has put the town and himself in a "bad situation," he said.

### Overstepped authority

Briggs, reading from a three-page handwritten statement, said Bean had overstepped his authority by requesting, in writing, that other inspectors not review buildings 8 and 20 at October Mountain. He said the state Board of Building Regulations and Standards, after hearing the situation, advised him to issue the occupancy permit even at the risk of being fired.

"The Selectmen have only the power to appoint or dismiss," he read. "They cannot direct an inspector on how to inspect. It is unlawful for any selectman to involve an inspector with political pressure."

Briggs said he brought one of the

letters to Salinetti and Selectman Diane P. Roosa, who told him they had not seen it before.

"Maybe he's chairman, but he doesn't have all the authority," Briggs said, addressing Salinetti and Roosa. "He's gotten a little power-struck. You people ought to step on him a little bit."

Briggs also accused the board of carrying out a "vendetta" against October Mountain co-developer Robert H. Garrity, who observed the hearing with about 20 other people.

"Every time he sneezes, you send an inspector to see if he's all right — and you know that," Briggs said. He added that some building infractions do exist, "and they're going to be taken care of. You people can't butt into it."

### 'Fundamental differences'

Salinetti admitted he had not seen Bean's communication beforehand, but said the full board had discussed the matter and was well aware of the contents of the letter. He said October Mountain is "one aspect of this overall problem" and blamed the dispute on "fundamental differences" between Briggs and the Selectmen.

Referring to Briggs's pro-development stance, he said, "several actions taken would seem to suggest that the building inspector's position is something more than a neutral inspector's position."

Briggs, pointing out that he is a taxpayer concerned with the town's prosperity, said, "I don't think, because I'm a part-time building in-

spector, I should shut my mouth to what I feel."

Asked for her opinion, Roosa said she felt Briggs "went against his word" by issuing the permit against the board's wishes.

The Selectmen then voted to fire Briggs. They appointed Marble Hardware owner Robert W. Lester to replace him until a permanent inspector is named.

While most of the crowd milled outside, where two police officers were stationed, the Selectmen quietly voted to impose a building moratorium. The ban cuts off any large development that did not have plans approved and stamped by the town clerk as of Nov. 1. One of its victims is October Mountain, which is planning a second stage.

### Sewer capacity

A recurring idea at past board meetings, the ban was formally recommended last week by Tri-Town Sanitarian Peter J. Kolodziej, who warned of prohibitive state fines should the town's sewer plant on Route 102 fail. The plant is already at 80 percent of capacity. At times, during heavy rain and runoff, the sewer flow exceeds the plant's million-gallon limit.

As voted, the ban will apply not to single homes, but to large developments and subdivisions producing more than 2,000 gallons of sewage a day. Robert E. Hoogs, an engineer with Brown Associates of Pittsfield, said the average three-bedroom home produces about 330 gallons a day.

One such petition, at the Dresser Hull building supply company on Railroad Street, had 29 signatures.

According to local contractor Arnold R. Scaramuzzi, the petitioners are "a bunch of builders that would like to see a change. They are upset about Buddy getting fired and unhappy with the building moratorium."

Scaramuzzi said the Selectmen have had since May, when the \$25,000 study was approved, to do something about the sewer plant. Other builders have complained that excess storm water, not sewage, contributes to the problem.

Bean said the two decisions were carefully thought out by him and Selectmen Christopher A. Salinetti and Diane P. Roosa. He said he is "a little flattered" by the belief that he wields so much power on the board.

Saying he sympathizes with the builders, Bean added, "You're dealing with a special-interest group, and I'm not going to let a special-interest group make the decisions of the town of Lee. There are a lot of people out there who agree with me."

The moratorium affects all developments producing more than 2,000 gallons of sewage a day that did not have plans approved and stamped by the town clerk as of Nov. 1. It will be lifted when a \$25,000 sewer study determines whether the present plant should be expanded or a new one should be built.

Superintendent of Public Works J. Peter Scolforo said the list of contractors for the study has been narrowed to three, with a finalist to be named Monday. He estimated that three months will be needed for the study — meaning the moratorium will be in effect at least until sometime in February.

In the meantime, tradesmen have vented their anger by attempting to remove Bean. Their petition states: "We, the undersigned, are in total disagreement with your actions as chairman of the Board of Selectmen of the town of Lee, and therefore, we are asking for your immediate resignation for the best interests of the town."

atorium on large developments. Both votes were unanimous.

Briggs, an 18-year veteran building inspector, was fired because he refused an order by the board to stop issuing certificates of occupancy at The Village at October Mountain. The Selectmen contend that two new buildings at the village fall under a 1986 construction ban and should never have been built.

Briggs, saying he had backing from the state Board of Building Regulations and Standards, accused Bean of interfering. He said Bean acted on his own when he directed other inspectors not to sign permits for October Mountain.

The building moratorium, a recurring idea at past meetings, was imposed to relieve pressure on the town's sewer plant on Route 102. The plant is already at 80 percent of capacity. At times, during heavy rains and runoff, the sewage flow exceeds its million-gallon limit and runs off into the Housatonic River.

By William J. Carey

LEE — Bruised by the one-two punch of a building moratorium and the firing of Building Inspector Edward M. "Buddy" Briggs, local tradesmen are calling for the resignation of Selectmen Chairman William D. Bean.

A number of petitions have been distributed in the past 10 days calling on Bean to resign. Although there is no official tally, sources say several hundred signatures have been collected from contractors, suppliers and workers in the construction trades.

"No, I'm not going to resign," declared Bean, who is running for re-election in May. "In fact, when they do come in with that petition, I think it would be an excellent time to inform them I'm running for another three-year term."

Long in the making, the one-two punch was unleashed Nov. 16 when the Selectmen voted first to fire Briggs and then to clamp a temporary building moratorium on large developments.

## Lee petitions seek resignation of Selectmen chairman

The Berkshire Eagle, Saturday, November 28, 1987



Eagle, Tues. Dec. 1, 1987

## Boards endorse idea of hiring secretary

By William J. Carey

LEE — In their continuing effort to cope with development, town boards agreed last night to hire a part-time secretary and to route certain building applications through the full review process.

The meeting, hosted by the Selectmen, was called to improve lines of communication between the various town boards. At two similar meetings in the past 16 months, board members said they knew little of what their colleagues are doing. As a result, developments may be presented to one board while another remains in the dark.

One way to bridge the gap, it was suggested last night, would be to hire a common secretary for two of the town's gatekeeping bodies — the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals. That person would be responsible for coordinating the two boards, preparing their minutes and delivering all plans to the town clerk.

The minutes and other relevant information could then be copied

and distributed to other boards.

Tri-Town sanitarian Peter J. Kolodziej said the common secretary is "a great idea, it's long overdue." It was Kolodziej who consistently warned of a sewer crisis leading up to the Nov. 16 building moratorium on large developments.

George E. Frulla, chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals, said two pending permits are in abeyance for the lack of a secretary. He said the ZBA would be happy to share one. Planning Board member Leif Steinert said his board does have a secretary but is nearing the end of its secretarial budget. He, too, agreed that a common secretary would help.

It was agreed that a part-time secretarial job of 15 to 18 hours should be created. While officials questioned whether the Finance Committee would approve the expenditure, Selectmen's secretary Bobbie Pollard said the need alone warrants it.

"I think this can almost be considered an emergency situation," she said.

In a second decision, board members agreed to review building permits, if necessary, before they are approved by the building inspector. It was agreed that only large new buildings, not additions, would be subject to the review.

"That way, you don't create problems that you can't solve afterwards," said acting Building Inspector Robert W. Lester, who has taken over for fired inspector Edward M. "Buddy" Briggs.

Steinert voiced concern over the proposal, saying builders are entitled to apply for a permit without being "red-taped to death."

However, Selectmen Chairman William D. Bean said an established review process, "is not something to burden them with, it's something to make their trip easier."

### Other business

In other business, the Selectmen received a petition signed by 27 residents calling attention to the "dangerous situation" at two street entrances off Laurel Street or Route 20.

The petition states that entrances at Laurel and Navin avenues are too narrow and pose a hazard for cars entering and exiting. The new Laurel Street bridge, it said, enables tractor-trailers to proceed north without slowing down. The petition calls for widening the two entrances and modifying stone walls that abut Laurel Street.

Earlier, Francis D. Foley of Pease Terrace alerted the Department of Public Works to the situation.

"I don't want the town to be liable, as a taxpayer, if anyone gets killed at one of those intersections," he said.

## 35 Mead Corp. workers honored

LEE — Thirty-five employees of the Mead Corp. Specialty Paper Division in South Lee received awards recently for their participation in the company's organizational effectiveness program.

The awards were given during a day-long visit by Steven C. Mason, Mead Corp.'s president and chief operating officer. Mason worked in the marketing department of the Specialty Paper Division in 1972 and 1973.

The purpose of the OE program is to pass decision-making in the company to the levels where changes are carried out. Emphasis is placed on allowing teams of workers to develop and implement their own ideas to improve company operations.

Since 1985, OE-related improvements have saved the company \$600,000, according to Division President David L. Klausmeyer.

At a luncheon, Mason cited several OE programs, including the consolidation of two roll-wrapping departments, the redesign of a work area used for pigments, the automation of a chemical additive system and improvements to a paper rewinder.

Executives accompanying Mason were John W. Herbert, senior vice president; Charles J. Mazza, vice president of human resources; and Derrell Pate, director of organizational effectiveness. The group came from Mead headquarters in Dayton, Ohio.

Eagle, Tues. Dec. 1, 1987



B6 — The Berkshire Eagle, Wednesday, December 23, 1987

## Design contractor chosen to enlarge Lee's sewer plant

By William J. Carey

LEE — The Department of Public Works on Monday chose Sea Consultants Inc. of Cambridge to study the town's sewer plant and draft preliminary plans for an expansion.

The selection of a design contractor points to an eventual lifting of the town's building moratorium, which was imposed last month to relieve pressures on the sewer plant. Public Works Superintendent J. Peter Scolforo said the Cambridge firm should have a final report by April. But he was cautious in assessing how that report will affect the building moratorium.

Based on its recommendations, a future town meeting will have to approve borrowing the necessary funds. And with the time needed to obtain a bond, the actual construction will probably take place in 1989, Scolforo said.

What the DPW board should do in April, he said, is "look at this report and analyze what we should do [and] go from there."

### Near capacity

The town's sewer plant, which opened in 1968, is designed to handle a daily sewage flow of 1 million gallons. Since opening, its workload has increased from a daily average of 300,000 gallons to approximately 800,000 gallons. At times, during heavy rains and runoff, the sewer flow exceeds the plant's million-gallon capacity.

In May, town meeting representatives appropriated \$25,000 for the design of an expansion. And last month, at the urging of Tri-Town Sanitarian Peter J. Kolodziej, the Selectmen voted to clamp the moratorium on all developments producing more than 2,000 gallons of sewage a day.

Scolforo said that of the nine firms that submitted proposals, three were interviewed: Sea Consultants, Tighe & Bond of Easthampton and Coffin & Richardson of Boston. All turned in estimates of \$25,000.

Tighe & Bond, the town's consulting engineer, has already been selected to design the Fairview Street water tower and an expansion of the landfill.

"They were all pretty much the same," Scolforo said of the three finalists. "You have to interview

them and get a feel for what they're going to do."

He said Sea Consultants has done similar work in Westboro, Leicester, Fairhaven, Plymouth and other towns.

### Open landfill

In other business Monday, the DPW indicated that it will leave open the possibility of including other towns in the expansion of the Woodland Road landfill.

The board discussed the idea of a regional landfill while preparing the final wording of an environmental notification form to the state. The form, which addresses the design and siting of the expansion as well as its use, is being drafted by Tighe & Bond.

Michael R. Parsons, assistant chief engineer, advised that regional participation should not be excluded in the language of the form. He noted that recent state legislation makes considerable funds available to towns that bind together in solving their garbage woes.

"You probably at least will want to evaluate that," he said, conceding that people may be "alarmed" at the idea of a regional landfill.

The DPW agreed to leave open the possibility but to be diplomatic in the wording. Member Timothy O. Taylor pointed out that going regional does not mean wholesale dumping by neighboring towns. One potential operation, he said, would be the taking of ash from the Vicon trash-burning plant in Pittsfield.

### Add to life span

The board instructed Parsons to word the form so that any expansion "will allow the town to consider the use of this facility as a regional landfill or as a support landfill."

The expansion is expected to add 20 years to the life span of the landfill. However, it depends on the purchase of abutting property from Lane Construction Co. of Meriden, Conn. In May, town meeting representatives appropriated \$190,000 for the design of the expansion and purchase of property.

Parsons said the notification form will be submitted to the state, which will determine if a more comprehensive environmental impact report is necessary.



94.



**OPEN HOUSE**  
at  
**THE LEE LIBRARY**  
on  
**Saturday, Dec. 12, 1987**  
**1-4 p.m.**

Please come to bid farewell to  
**BETTY DENNIS**  
and welcome our new librarian  
**GEORGIA MASSUCCO.**

This ad sponsored as a community service by:



**LEE BANK**

75 Park Street in Lee 243-0117, Elm Street in Stockbridge 298-3611  
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The Berkshire Eagle, Saturday, December 5, 1987

William J. Carey

**RETIRING** after 52 years as Lee's librarian is Betty L. Dennis of Chapel Street. She will be honored at an open house Dec. 12 from 1 to 4 at the library.

## Lee's librarian, Betty Dennis, to retire after 52 years on job

By William J. Carey

LEE — A small town traces its identity to the people who stayed on after high school, the buildings that stand out on Main Street and the institutions they represent.

One of those people, the keeper of Lee's library for half a century, will retire this month. Betty L. Dennis took a \$9-a-week job at the library in 1935 and became head librarian, for keeps, in 1942.

"My mother probably went to the library every day," said Lee High School teacher Thomas F. Cinella. "Betty started giving me Oreo cookies when I was five or six years old and it continued with my three children. She's almost synonymous with the library. She's been a good friend to a lot of the children and adults in Lee."

For Dennis, a youthful 70, retirement is anything but a solemn occasion. Just as the town has accepted change, she, too, is ready to pass the baton. She and her successor, Georgia A. Massucco, have been deferring to each other for a month now, while Massucco learned the finer points of the job.

"It's part of a cycle," Dennis observed. "I don't mind growing old at all. I think God has it all figured out."

Besides the library, church and neighborhood figure prominently in Dennis's life. She is a member of the altar guild, choir and women's group of St. George's Episcopal Church. When the handbell choir went to Boston, she was sure to reserve a seat on the bus.

The youngest of three sisters, Dennis grew up, and still lives, in a four-bedroom house on Chapel Street in East Lee with her sister, Grace. Her father, whom she remembers affectionately as "Daddy," was a carpenter of Dutch descent. Her mother, of English descent, kept the house.

When she was a child, East Lee was a close-knit community of about 25 families, Dennis said. It was proud and protective of its identity, having its own grade school, post office and general store. "In those days," she recalled, "you didn't come to town so often."

Her sister, Grace, worked in town as an assistant to Librarian Flora Saunders. When Grace accepted a job at the Lee National Bank, Betty, then 18, took her place. Her beginning salary, in the midst of the Depression, was \$9 a week. Seven years later, when Saunders died, Dennis was promoted to the librarian's job.

At the beginning of her career, the library received a yearly appropriation of \$2,300 from the town and circulated about 20,000 books. Though challenged by television, book clubs and videocassette recorders, it now receives \$100,000 from the town and places 50,000 books in circulation.

Dennis said her job has evolved from simply storing books to devising budgets, planning programs and filling out tax forms.

The patrons also have evolved. At least four members of the library's board of trustees, including Cinella, came to Dennis as children. Three of her younger-generation readers were state Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins and Selectmen Diane P. Roosa and Christopher A. Salinetti. And there are new faces — people who own condominiums and make summer visits.

Never married, Dennis jokingly refers to herself as a "confirmed old maid with many children."

Of her retirement, Dennis said she has no plans. She and Grace, now 78, have plenty enough to do around the house, she said.

"We have a busy life," she said. "If we travel — fine. I've never been bored."



By Charles Bonenti

STOCKBRIDGE

from  
p.  
33

Inventiveness came easy to Nathan George Horwitt. He was at it so long and did it so automatically, that he's hard put to explain just what it took.

"Better talk to a psychiatrist," he says.

The 88-year-old designer of the famous Museum Watch now manufactured by Movado, and of numerous other objects for everyday use, is among several dozen artists and designers exhibiting in the current Brooklyn Museum show "The Machine Age in America 1918-1941."

The show, which runs through Feb. 18, focuses on the machine as the defining force in American art and culture in the years between the two world wars. The era was one that only broke with the past aesthetically, but also saw the introduction of synthetic materials like plastic and stainless steel and of new processes to shape and finish them. The combination resulted in streamlined artworks, buildings and objects, variously labeled Art Deco, Art Moderne and International Style.

Horwitt's "Beta Chair," a chrome-plated tubular-steel construction of stunning simplicity, is among the objects on display.

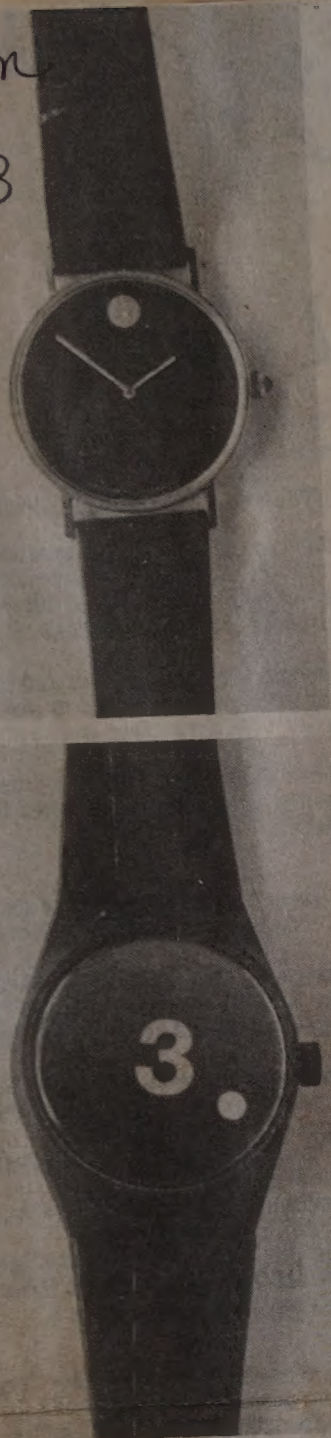
Was advertising man

Horwitt never studied design, aside from taking a few classes at the Art Students League in New York City. An advertising copy writer at E.R. Squibb, he quit work in 1928 to go into business for himself. He was tired, he said in his typically blunt way, "of giving virtues to products that had no virtues," and figured if he could package something verbally, he could package it physically.

Strong on idealism, but short on commissions, his four-man company, Design Engineers, folded in just three years. For the next six decades, Horwitt made what he termed a "scanty living" patenting ideas and trying to sell them to manufacturers. Typically, he would have a model made of his design at his expense, then try to convince manufacturers to mass produce it at theirs.

He also supported himself by farming the 400 acres he bought on Bean Hill Road here in 1945.

Retired now from both inventing and farming, he spends much of his



Joel Librizzi

The Museum Watch, top, Horwitt's most successful design, is a descendant of the "Cyclox," above, which has never been manufactured.

time organizing his papers and scrapbooks, supporting human rights causes and reflecting on life.

#### Practical intent

He considers himself neither an artist nor a sculptor. Art, he says, has illustrative or aesthetic purposes. His intent always was a practical one. He designed to fill a need and he wanted his designs to reveal the object's purpose.

This form-follows-function philosophy grew out of his readings about the Bauhaus in Germany, a school established by architect Walter Gropius in 1919 to promote the idea of a synthesis of art, craft and building. Even now, when the International Style that Gropius and his disciples promoted has been criticized for the "glass box" sterility it imposed on the urban environment, Horwitt still carries the Bauhaus banner.

To him, it represented a purity of purpose and honesty of execution that has never been matched, except, perhaps, by the Shakers.

Too many designers, Horwitt says, including such American celebrities as Raymond Loewy, Russel Wright and William Dorwin Teague, all of whom are in the Brooklyn show, were more decorators than engineers. And American manufacturers, he says, are more concerned

with competitive advantages and profits than good, enduring design.

To him, creating an object like the Museum Watch or the Beta Chair was a process of understanding and simplifying. His task was to understand how the object could be used most efficiently and then come up with a design that enhanced that use. Decoration, he says, simply interferes and distracts.

#### Design process

The thinking that led up to the Museum Watch, the best documented of his projects, illustrates something of the way he worked. Horwitt began as early as 1930 to try to find a more economical way to tell time. The traditional clock face with two hands sweeping a circle of 12 numerals was cluttered, he thought, and at quick glance could be misread. Why not have a face, he reasoned, that would present time the way people say it, in digits, like 10:30? It was less cluttered and easier to read. He called it "Jump Clock."

But he missed, he said, the visual suggestion of time "going around" and he felt the four digits could be reversed and misread at a quick glance. His solution, after more study, was to put a single digit in the center of the face to represent the hour and a moving dot near the rim to represent the minute. The face was instantly readable, he said. It was uncluttered, there were no combinations of numbers to mix up and it preserved the sense of time as a moving phenomenon. It would not give a precise split-minute reading, but few people need to know the time so precisely anyway. He named this clock face, "Cyclox."

#### Ahead of time

The trouble was, as Horwitt and other designers have discovered, ideas can be too much ahead of their time. And manufacturers can be slow to take risks. While digital clocks are commonplace today since the invention of the electronic chip and the light emitting diode, clockmakers in the 1930s were simply not set up to make them. Even now, Cyclox, which Horwitt still envisions as a watch or an auto dashboard clock, exists only as a model.

The Museum Watch, on the other hand, so called because it was acquired by the Museum of Modern Art in 1964, did make it to market. Patented in 1958 and a descendent of Cyclox, it required neither microchips nor diodes. It has a blank face with conventional hour and minute hands and a single dot where the numeral 12 would be. The watch sold for between \$200 and \$300 when it first came out. In gold, it costs between \$700 and \$1,000 today although it is available in less expensive metals for around \$325.

Ironically, although Horwitt's name has long been attached to it, he has never profited from the Museum Watch to the extent he believes he should have. His 14-year patent ran for 10 years before the watch was even manufactured. And he brought several lawsuits for patent infringement before the expiration. All told, he thinks he made maybe \$65,000 on this, the most famous and successful of his timepieces.

"The Machine Age in America, 1918-1941," will be at the Brooklyn Museum at 200 Eastern Parkway until Feb. 16.

A 376-page catalog is available for \$24.95.

Hours are 10 to 5 daily; 11 to 6, Saturdays and 1 to 6 Sundays. Closed Tuesdays. Admission is \$3.







